

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. III.]

MONDAY, MAY 20, 1822.

[No. 120

MISCELLANEOUS.

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General Summary.

We are in the same situation exactly as we were last week, with the Report before us of a large Ship standing up below Saurgar, attended by a Pilot Vessel, name unknown,—and in momentary expectation of hearing from her; but with the necessity of sending our Paper to Press whether we hear or not. Should any thing of consequence transpire in the way of News, we can only do as we have often done before, communicate it in an Extra Sheet, and fill those of our present Number with such matter as was previously prepared for publication.

The African Slave Trade is still a subject of painful interest with the Public, and will continue so, we trust, while there exists any remains of that detestable traffic. It appears by recent accounts from Sierra Leone, given in our Paper of to-day, it is that still far from being completely abolished, notwithstanding the exertions that have been made for many years in behalf of the unfortunate Africans, who are thus robbed of their natural rights, and become the victims of unprincipled avarice. The stigma of dealing in human flesh seems to rest now almost entirely with the Portuguese and French; and the honor of putting an end to it, we are proud to claim for the English and Americans. The President, in his Message to the House of Representatives in the beginning of December last, states that considerable success had attended the efforts of the American cruizers to suppress the Slave Trade; and under the flag of the United States and the sanction of their papers the trade might be considered as entirely suppressed; and if any of the American citizens were engaged in it under the flags and papers of other powers, it was only out of respect to the rights of those powers that the offenders were not seized and brought home to receive the punishment that the laws would inflict. From the above statement, it is extremely probable that many of the vessels sailing under the French and Portuguese flags may belong to other nations; but the disgrace ought in justice not to fall upon the people, but upon the governments that countenance this truly infamous trade; and if every government would join heart and hand against it, there cannot be a doubt of the possibility of giving it its death blow.

The exertions of Great Britain to effect this desirable object are highly honourable to us; and will certainly go far to wipe off the disgrace of having so long sinned in the same manner. For it must not be forgotten that we also have much to atone for. "Britain (says the SCOTSMAN) is at this day one of the greatest slaveholding states in the world. Her public men played with the question of abolition for seventeen years after the enormities of the trade were exposed and admitted. She was the general slave-driver of Europe; and during a great part of last century had two-thirds of the whole African slave trade in her hands. Having kept hold of the lucrative iniquity as long as she could, and having lost it only by an accidental party revolution, is it to be wondered at if Foreign powers doubt her sincerity when with the wages of sin yet in her pocket, she gives herself the airs of a saint. Reclamations in favor of the blacks and humanity coming from our anti-abolition cabinet must have been heard by the continental powers with the same contempt which we feel in listening to the lectures of a habitual tippler against ineptiety."

We think it very unfair thus to confound a nation with its government, as is often done by political writers, either through carelessness, or because they find it gives more freedom of expression, and improves the beauty of their style to say (for instance) "Britain" instead "of the British Government." Britain, as a nation, detested the slave trade as soon as its enormities were known; and even if the government had resisted its abolition till this very day, it would have been unfair to throw the whole or any part of the ignominy upon the mass of our countrymen, who viewed it with loathing and abhorrence. We hope the same liberal view of the subject will be extended to the French and other nations; for as only a very few individuals comparatively can benefit directly from such a trade, it is hardly conceivable that a whole people, from any national feeling, or remote contingent interest, should be deaf to the voice of humanity.

Considering the desireableness of encouraging an honourable traffic with Africa, instead of the infamous trade in slaves, and the many disadvantages which our colonies in that part of the world labour under, from the unhealthiness of the climate, &c. the little encouragement given them by government seems both impolitic and cruel. And since trade is the great means of diffusing knowledge and civilization, an act of this kind will not be compensated for by hundreds of volumes filled with abundance of professing about humanity and philanthropy, and benevolence to the poor Africans.

The brief account of St. Jago will be interesting to such as have, on their passage to India, paid a visit to that dreary island; which, as a specimen, is almost enough to sicken a young traveller at the idea of living in a tropical climate; But the most curious of all these extracts is the African State Paper. Prince Almany Abdullah is not so lame a politician. He fills nearly half his diplomatic note with compliments, before he mentions "the thing of weight," that has moved him to address the "chiefs of the lands of salt and water." But his sentiments would be deemed perfectly radical in Europe; for after mentioning that Mandingo is torn by a civil war occasioned by the angry disputes of two young men, he says "why suffer two youths to desolate a fine country?" Now if any man were to say. "Europe is desolated with war, occasioned by the conflicting interests of some four or five men, bearing the fortunate names of Alexander, Francis, Louis, Ferdinand, &c. why do you allow so many fine countries to be laid waste for the sake of four or five old men?" he would be denounced as a leveller. But as the Africans are well known to be a very ignorant race, their simplicity in this affair is pardonable.

However the sagacious Prince Almany Abdullah has made discoveries in politics which would have been very useful in England if known and attended to for the last twenty years. "War (says he) desolates, brings hunger and distress, and in other respects is a great evil." The people of England know that now; since they have felt the hunger and distress brought by war; but they would not believe it before; and when peace came without its *verbal* con-comitant "plenty" they languished for more war still. The very language of the Africans seems to proclaim them an acute and thinking people. "Know ye, who live in peace" (says Prince Abdullah, "that war is called waste and hunger." Less barbarous nations call it honor and glory. But we must hasten to our Miscellaneous Extracts.

Changes in Administration.—It is understood that Mr. Charles Wynn is to have the Board of Control, that Doctor Phillimore comes to the Admiralty, and that some other friends of Lord Grenville are to have places.

Our readers are aware that in regard to these, and other Ministerial arrangements, which we understand are to be completed at the end of the present quarter by the change we have already announced in the Home Department, the MORNING CHRONICLE has been silent as to the rumours to which they gave rise during their progress. We took this course from feeling, as we said in a former paper, that the changes themselves were of a nature very little calculated to interest the public at large. No alteration of system, no conciliatory feeling towards the people, no departure from the stern, inflexible determination of governing England by force, ever entered into the views of the King's Counsellors in the recommendations which they have so long been pressing upon his Majesty. Knowing this to be the case, we really thought it a waste of time, if not an insult to our countrymen in their present deplorable condition, to draw their attention to a wretched puppet-show, which, like the old woman and harlequin in toys to show the weather, exhibits nothing better than a Sidmouth and a Peel peeping out alternately at the doors of their respective cabins. The nominations to the Household however are said to have been accompanied by circumstances of a higher interest, and which may merit rather more serious animadversion.

It is very generally asserted, that in the appointment to the Chief Office in the Household, Ministers have consulted their own convenience rather than the wishes of their Sovereign. It is said also that they pressed for his Majesty's consent to their demands by the use of an alternative, which, for reasons needless to dwell upon, has hitherto proved to them an infallible method of carrying all difficult points with him. So far this is in order. That the same men who in 1812, advised his Majesty to resist all interference with his prerogative in the appointment of the Great Officers of his Household, and who owe their own places to an unequivocal acceptance of that condition, should in 1821, turn sharp round upon their master, and insist upon naming to those offices themselves, will astonish no man who considers the effect of the long possession of power on the minds of persons who are ignorant of its just use. What is supposed to have recently occurred therefore is exactly what was to be expected from the present Ministers; and we should not say one word about the Duke of Montrose's nomination to be Lord Chamberlain, which is of just as much importance to the Public as his Grace's efficiency can render it, were it not for the peculiar species of triumph with which it has been received in the Ministerial circles. We must suggest to Ministers themselves (whom we readily acquit of such indecency in their own persons), that it would be becoming in them, at least, to check the language of some of their coarser partisans upon this subject.

But if the arrangements for English offices be a matter of such inferior interest, it is not so with regard to those for Ireland. The elevation of such a man as the Marquis of Wellesley to a post of power cannot be indifferent, and seems to announce that the guidance of the government of Ireland is at length to be entrusted to men who can propose to themselves great and intelligible views, and pursue them with wisdom, vigour, and effect. As Whigs, indeed, and as advocates for that scheme of mutual agreement in principle which we conceive to be the only basis for a Constitutional Administration to rest upon, we should gladly have seen the Noble Marquis associated with a Government at home entitled to the confidence of the people; but if confidence be too much for us to grant to the present Ministers, we are ready to admit that in the appointment of the noble Marquis—in whatever quarter it originated—there is good ground for hope that a serious and an honest effort will at length be made to form a good government for Ireland.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Mr. Hume.—It is said to be the intention of Mr. Hume to bring the subject of tithes under Parliamentary consideration in the next Session.

Progress of Knowledge.—There have been few periods in history when the effects of changes, which are to be esteemed as proceeding from intellectual and moral causes, were so universally visible in the political vicissitudes of the world. The war in Spanish part of South America, the state of the Portuguese empire in that continent, as well as the condition of both these kingdoms, and the insurrection of the Greeks, appear to be no other than manifestations of the same spirit that so lately instigated a part of the inhabitants of Italy, viz. a desire to obtain a form of Government in which the people, by representation, should enjoy their portion of power in the state. That the same notion prevails throughout Germany there can be no doubt, and the struggle of parties (which France now witnesses) proceeds from the same desire to extend and enlarge the provisions to the same intent in that kingdom. At home there should seem to be exercised a watchfulness in guarding against encroachment (with whatever success it may be exerted) that indicates the presence and the power of the same pervading principle—and which indeed may be said to have thus projected its rays on all sides from England, as from the centre of the political system, the planet from whence the light of freedom first beamed. This universality proves at once the value of the object, the force with which it is sent over the world, and the hold it has taken. These are points ascertained, but of the new forms into which society is about to be cast, we can argue little, except from the nature of the demands made by the people of the various countries, and the firmness with which they are supported. The remarkable difference is in the comparative moderation observable at this moment, when we look back upon the efforts made to obtain concessions in behalf of the people, during the era of the French revolution, and from this fact alone we are inclined to consider the popular cause to be much more successfully prosecuting now, than at that time.

The improvement of France, even under the Bourbon government, is evident. Whatever the terrors of the period of re-action, she stands emancipated from the burthen of an immense portion of venal superstition; from the arrogance and privileges of an insolent and greedy noblesse; from a heavy weight of feudal and slavish exaction; and finally, from such a degree of positive despotism, as placed the personal liberty of every soul in France at the disposal of the Monarch and his ministers. Not only so; she has obtained, if not a pure representation, an arena for the conflict of mind, and a press, which, though under temporary shackles, has a certain prospect of becoming free. Public credit has increased and is increasing; commerce and industry are thriving. If to these particulars be added that still more important result—the obvious spread of correct general notions in respect to freedom and good government, we need no longer have any fear for the general result.

Statistics of Ireland.—Mr. Wakefield's valuable and authentic work, on the Statistics of Ireland, makes the aggregate amount of the incomes of the Irish Bishops, 146,000*l.* per annum, arising partly from tithe, but chiefly from land. The present value of the estates belonging to the Bishoprics, if out of lease, would be immense. Mr. Wakefield, from the estimate of well-informed persons has given the value of a few as follows:—the Primacy (Armagh) 140,000*l.*; Derry, 120,000*l.*; Kilmore, 100,000*l.*; Waterford, 70,000*l.*; Clogher, 100,000*l.* The livings in the gift of the Archbishop of Cashel, are worth 35,000*l.* per annum: of the Bishop of Cloyne, 50,000*l.* of Cork, 30,000*l.*; of Ferne, 30,000*l.*; Killaloe has 109 benefices, many worth 1,500*l.* each. The Deanery of Down, in the year 1790, which was worth only 2,000*l.* per annum, now lets for 3,700*l.* The Rectory of Middleton, in the county of Cork, in 1785, yielding scarcely 800*l.* per annum, at present produces upwards of 2,800*l.* “A living of 500*l.*,” says Mr. Wakefield, “is but a middling one in Ireland, and any thing beneath it is considered very low.” Notwithstanding these enormous revenues, a large proportion of the Bishops, Dignitaries, and Incumbents, are absentees, expending the immense incomes wrung from the soil and labour of Ireland in the dissipated and fashionable circles of Bath and London. The families of many of the Prelates are said to “reside constantly in England; and

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the only duty performed by the Absentee Bishop is to cross the water during the summer months, just take a look at the metropolis palace, and then return to spend the remainder of the year in this country." Mr. Ensor, in his work on Ecclesiastical Establishments, says "The Primate of all Ireland, though in the summer of 1807 he enforced in his charge the duty of residence to the Clergy, almost immediately after quitted the island." The late Earl of Bristol, Bishop of Derry, resided twenty years abroad, and, during that time received the revenue of his rich diocese, amounting to 240,000*l.* The Primate Rokeby, resided several years at Bath, and is said never to have visited Ireland during the whole of the time. That many of the Prelates should be young and indebted for their valuable dignities solely to family connexion, will not after this be wondered at; but is more extraordinary, some have been in the army, and navy (fit schools of education for the Church!)—"One Archbishop," says Mr. Wakefield, "was, I believe, before his appointment a Lieutenant in the Navy; the Dean of Clogher was a member of the Imperial Parliament; and the Rector of a valuable benefice was lately an Aid-de-Camp at the Castle."—(p. 476.)—*Belfast Paper.*

Dublin.—The Parliamentary Commission which lately sat in Dublin, it is understood, means to recommend that the Union shall be carried into complete effect by the removal of the commercial restrictions between the two countries now in force, and equalizing the duties. We also understand that it considers the present machinery of the public offices in Ireland on a scale much too large, and disproportioned to the revenue, and means to recommend a great reduction in the number of clerks, the amount of salaries, and other means of economy and retrenchment.

Randall.—The friends of Martin have agreed to Randall's, proposition, to fight Randall for 300*l.* aside, and bet 1,000*l.* even.

Rent.—A farmer in the neighbourhood of Doncaster was lately met by his landlord, who accosted him thus:—"John, I intend to raise your rent;" to which John replied, "Sir I'm very much obliged to you, for I cannot raise it myself."

Ideality.—"There are some persons," (says Dr. Abernethy, in compliment to the irritable race) "who have a particular susceptibility of mind, which causes them to perceive so acutely and forcibly that it leads to exaggeration. They cannot speak of circumstances like men of sober sense, but always express themselves in hyperbole. The strong perception of what is great, good, and beautiful, makes them strive to excel, but it often is an ideal excellence which they aim at, and not such as is attainable by ordinary means or powers. This state of mind Gall and Spurzheim consider as essential to poetic talent, and they call it ideality." How nearly the definition places our noblest geniuses on a par with liars and raving braggards!

Zodiac of Denderah.—The famous Zodiac of Denderah (Egypt) is at length released from quarantine, and the learned men of Marseilles have had an opportunity of examining this valuable piece of antiquity, which is said by certain persons to have existed 14,821 years.

Distinguished Characters.—Interlocution stated to have recently occurred between two distinguished characters:—"Well, Sir W. I hear you are desirous of changing your Baronetcy for a Barony—is it true?"—"Sir, it is the wish next to my heart." Good; but you have no landed estate?"—"My house and grounds at Southgate."—"That's not enough to dignify a peerage."—"But I've a 'pretty bit of property' at Leatherhead in Surrey,"—"Aye, that will do—you may be Lord Leatherhead, Sir W. whenever you please!"—Doubtless his expectant Lordship will have the next vacant red ribbon.

Dublin.—In the Court of Chancery, Dublin, on Friday (Dec. 14) Mr. Plunkett was Counsel for a Gentleman, for whom he claimed the commissiernon of the Court on account of his extreme age, 74 years. A Lawyer opposed to him replied, "But you have forgotten to state, Mr. Plunkett, that your client married, within these few months, a lady considerably under 20 years of age." "Then," remarked Mr. Franks, "Mr. Plunkett should not rely upon the great age of his client, for it appears that, night and day, he has youth at his side."

Irish Packet.—During the late heavy gales, an Irish packet was blown over in the short space of six hours to Liverpool, and was seen driving with alarming velocity, as every one apprehended, against the pier: but providentially, the dock-gates were open, and she was directed by the unseen hand of her merciful preserver, into it in safety.

Brazil Wood.—Brazil wood is heavy and excellent for building; put into water it will remain sound, it is said, eternally: put into fire it breaks in pieces, but does not produce any smoke. *Henderson's Brazil.*

Germany.—We remember being told at school that the moon was about the size of Germany. Germany, during the war, being akin to the moon in another respect, and probably under her influence, experienced about as many changes as she did during the same period, and at this day exhibits a superficies as diversified as her disk, which according to astronomers bears evident marks of intestine eruption and external devastation. There had been Emperors of Germany and Kings of the Romans from the age of Charlemagne; but when Bonaparte created himself Emperor of France, and King of Italy, he who bore those magnificent titles, in the fortieth generation, voluntarily abdicated them, and degraded himself into Emperor of Austria. If this was the fate of the head of the Germanic Body, the limbs were dislocated, spliced, and transmuted in proportion. The feudal system was broken to pieces like Nebuchadnezzar's image, and of the "disjecta membra," a monster, called the Confederation of the Rhine, as anomalous as the Beast in the Revelations, and having nearly as many crowned heads, was raised in its place, which trampled down humanity most heroically till the battle of Leipsic, where it was mortally wounded, and though carried off the field, died in the litter that bore it in flight of the French army. A new order of incongruities, between the former and the latter, has been substituted, and the only difference to "the souls" (the German name for "bodies," when princes are parcelling out subjects,) that inhabit this multiform region, is, that their masters have changed names, some for the better and more for the worse.

In the new map of Europe, published by royal authority in 1815, there appears a kingdom called the Netherlands, comprising Holland and Flanders; but whether there be a right king over it, (as the children would say, to distinguish from a make belief,) we shall not undertake to affirm or dispute, our own most gracious Sovereign having lately returned from his travels through that part of the world, where, as far as we know, he met with no such personage,—though if such an one exist, he owes crown and kingdom both, to England and her Prince Regent, when he himself was an exile, and a dependant here.—*Sheffield Iris.*

Coal Pits.—A gentleman, signing himself a Mineral Surveyor, has addressed a letter to the editor of a daily paper, on the alarming frequency of explosions of coal gas in the coal pits of the vicinity of Newcastle. He states that his attention was called to the subject some years ago, that the result of his "investigations was, that the cause of these dire effects was to be found in the change of system which took place in that district within the memory of persons still living, whereby the number of pits sunk to coal, from the surface of the ground, has been greatly diminished, at the same time that the underground extent of individual works has been greatly increased. The ventilation of the mine necessarily becomes imperfect and dangerous, whenever the length of passage through which the air has to circulate under ground, is inordinately extended in length, as has now long been the case in the district above, wherein it is common to find the ventilation by single pits extended to 20 or 30 miles; and even it has been stated, and remains uncontradicted, to 95 miles in length! The remedy of the evils is, for the coal owners to sink more pits two at least to each work."

Napoleon and Moreau.—At the period of Napoleon's greatest despotism and power, it was observed, that the tree of liberty was now pulled up by the roots, and not a fragment of it remained. 'This is not yet the case, (observed Moreau sarcastically,) have we not still l'écorce!' (Le Corse.)

Mansion House.—On the 12th of Dec., a case came on before the Lord Mayor, in the examination of which was exposed the most remarkable system of villainy that has been, within the experience of the city police, carried on for a number of years. A little boy, about seven or eight years of age, who has been sometimes called Palmer, sometimes Roberts, was charged with having been deeply concerned with a gang of desperate house-breakers, under the immediate direction and encouragement of his own father and mother. On Sunday week, he was seen at a very late hour at night lurking near the corner of Swan-lane, Thames-street. The watchman took him up; but could learn nothing from him, as he treated every question with contempt, or evaded it with a fabricated story. He was taken on Monday before the Lord Mayor, and showed great self-possession; but after a long series of evasions, he confessed that he had been delivered up to two men the night before, who had rowed him from Westminster-bridge to Thames-street; and that these men were well furnished with crow-bars, &c.; but he would give no further account of them. The prisoner was sent back to prison after his first examination, and Dady, an officer, was ordered to make further inquiries. Thursday, Dady stated that he had learnt the birth, parentage and education of the prisoner. His father was a thief, who had been transported, and his mother was a common prostitute. They were in the habit of hiring him out by the night to housebreakers, for whose service he was highly educated. He had carried the art of climbing to the highest perfection, and could enter a hole not much larger than was necessary for the admission of a cat. The boy himself exulted in the acts he had committed, but carefully concealed the names of the principal ruffians concerned. It appeared that he had been hired out by his father and mother the night before to a set of thieves, and was, by his own account, to have entered the house of a Mr. Richards, at the corner of St. Martin's-lane, and to admit his companions. The thing would, he said, have been done but for the watchman. The way he worked was this.—The men cut a hole in the shutters of a house, and thrust him in. He opened the shutters on the door, if he could; but if he could not, he handed out as much as he could lay his hands upon to his companions. If admission could not be gained by any other means than the chimney, he used to climb up the house and drop down the chimney, from whence he used to go to the hall door; but finding sometimes insurmountable difficulties in his plan of getting out, he returned the way he entered, carrying with him as much as paid his employer for his labour. The officer said he had stated the circumstance to the Philanthropic Society, and learned that they considered the case as having peculiar claims. One of the members attended, and said that the boy should be kept from all intercourse with those outside, and taught a trade.

Proclamation.—We lay before the reader the following proclamation, addressed by San Martin to the women of Lima, as a curiosity:—

"Women of Lima,—In vain have I endeavoured, by dint of reason, to terminate a contest, which requires from your sensibility so many and so dear sacrifices. I cannot contemplate them without interest, when in the picture of the public calamities they present themselves to me as a double ground of charge against the pride of their authors. You are those authors, and that it is not the first time they have been the cause of your sufferings. What American woman is there who has not injuries to remember as a mother—who has not had cause as a wife, a daughter, or a sister, to execrate the Spaniards? You who have been born to inspire the sweet emotions of gratitude, and to feel the lively excitements of resentment, can determine whether the conduct of the Spaniards has exceeded the limits or kept within the bounds of your endurance. Not content with having covered you with tears and mourning, during the war of the revolution, they endeavoured to prolong your sorrows, and to involve you in the misery and horrors which threaten them for their crimes.

"Women of Lima, nature and reason require you to employ the influence given you by both to accelerate the termination of this sacrilegious war, in which the Spaniards fight against

all that is sacred among men, namely—their universal will, their rights, and even the performance of their duties, for by them we are called upon to take up arms. Render yourselves as celebrated by your co-operation in the great work of delivering Peru, as you are already by the attractions of your beauty, and delicacy of your minds. Inflame with patriotic ardour all your countrymen, and if any of them still slumber in the lap of slavery invite around them the inspiration of liberty. The glorious accents of freedom cannot be heard without enthusiasm if breathed from your lips. Exert yourselves to dissipate the obstinacy of those who labour to prolong the war, while my fellow-soldiers convince them in the field of battle that it is vain to fight with free-men. Thus the desolations of Peru will come to an end; you will never have reason to regret your destiny in society; and, finally, it will cease to be a misfortune to be united in the closest ties with those who love their country, and have sworn to save it."

Trade.—To the notices which we have from time to time published of the favourable posture of trade, we may add a gratifying view of our commerce with the United States. Its extent is probably more considerably than our readers would imagine. The exports from Scotland of manufactured goods to the various parts of the Union will this year amount to about two millions sterling. The magnitude of the sum will appear more surprising when we consider the restrictions which prohibit us from taking in exchange agricultural produce. A trade so important it behoves us to cherish with all possible care; and it is gratifying to think that customers so valuable are a free people, little likely impeded her prosperity by projects of ambition.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

Floods and Rains.—The Vale of Arundel is one continued sheet of water, and the aspect of the surrounding country is of the most dreary description. The floods and rains swelled the Lewes river to a great height; but owing to the admirable construction of the sewers, and their ready communication with the river, the water occasioned by the late inundation is fast declining from our levels. The situation of Chichester, from the accumulation of the water, is most deplorable. Even cellars in the centre and higher ground of the city are not free from its intrusion. The suburbs, particularly the eastern and southern, have been inundated for some days. From some channels being judiciously cut, and the prevalence of a northerly drying wind for the last thirty hours, much good is looked to; in some places it has sunk eighteen inches. Every thing that appears an obstruction to the desired vent of this element is either by dark or daylight levelled; "and we fear," says our correspondent, "a repetition of a water war, which unharmonized the good citizens, first by a paper war, and ultimately by an assize trial, in 1811."—*Sussex paper.*

Coach Proprietors.—In consequence of opposition among the coach proprietors of Exeter, the fares from hence to Exeter and London have been this week reduced to a few shillings; but tomorrow (Dec. 23) the Safety coach leaves Weakley's Hotel at seven o'clock in the morning, at any or no fare, just as the passengers choose!—Breakfast will be provided at Weakley's in the morning; lunch at Goss's Seven stars, Totnes, in the forenoon; and dinner and wine at Congdon's Hotel, Exeter, on the arrival of the coach—without any charge!—*Plymouth Paper.*

Eccentric Irishman.—An eccentric Irishman, whose name was James Whately, and who was well known in England as an itinerant Manager, was one night playing Macbeth, and having made his exit at the stage door to commit the murder upon Duncan, he demanded of the property-man where the colouring was, with which to give the appearance of being bloody to the daggers and his hands. The property-man, well knowing the consequence, trembled as he informed him he had forgotten it. "Have you, my dear?" said Whately—and with his clinched fist he struck the man a violent blow upon the nose, which produced a copious flood of blood; with the precious liquid he quickly coloured his hands and the daggers, and telling the unfortunate fellow to be more careful again, he presented himself to the audience.

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Increase of Slave Vessels.

We have received a file of *GAZETTES* from Sierra Leone to the 14th of October. Much activity continues to be shown by the British men of war on that coast in the suppression of the slave trade, though we are compelled to add that it proves wholly inadequate to the object. About the middle of September, the Portuguese schooner *ADELAIDE*, with upwards of 200 slaves on board, was brought in the harbour of Sierra Leone by his Majesty's ship *PHEASANT*, and condemned as lawful prize to the Crowns of Great Britain and Portugal. The slaves were liberated. Another Portuguese vessel, called the *CONCEICAO*, with 54 slaves on board, was brought in on the 24th of September, prize to his Majesty's brig *SNAPPER*, Lieut. Knight, commander. The vessel last named had returned from a cruise to leeward, and the information given by her commander fully corroborates the statement formerly made regarding the increase of slave-vessels on the coast. A great number of French and Portuguese vessels, fitted for slaves, were found securely riding at anchor in the different rivers visited by the *SNAPPER*, while their cargoes were collecting in the factories on shore. In the course of her cruise, the *SNAPPER*, in proceeding down the coast, and when off Cape Mount, chased two schooners under French colours, that made every exertion to escape; when, from the vicinity to the shore, they found that impossible, they separated, so that only one could be boarded. The largest vessel was the object of attention, and was brought to by the *SNAPPER*, when she was found to be the French schooner *L'ETINCELLE*, of Bordeaux, fitted out at that port for the slave trade: her equipment was of the most superior description, and her cabin superb—French mirrors and scarlet curtains. The captain earnestly begged of Lieut. Knight to accept some presents, and wished to have put some cases of champagne into the boat. The other schooner eluded search, owing to the lateness of the evening. When the *SNAPPER* was at Calabar, she found, besides the Portuguese schooner sent up for condemnation, a Spanish felucca and two French schooners, the *HYPOLITE* and *LE NEPTUNE*: the Spaniard was so fast a sailer, that they entertained no fear of her capture when once clear of the river; she is a constant trader between the Havanah and Calabar.

The late visits of the men of war and their boats had made the slave-traders at that place so cautious, that, with the exception of the *CONCEICAO*, all were keeping their slaves in factories on shore, until the very day of their departure. Lieut. Knight was informed that a French schooner had lately sailed with 200 slaves for Cayenne, which vessel, from the sharpness of her building, for the advantage of sailing, could only carry at the rate of nine gallons of water per slave, and her commander had no intention of touching at any other place before he reached his destination.

It is stated, that in the river of Calabar there were recently several slave vessels, moored together, with springs on their cables, in such a position as to present at a short notice a half-moon battery; and they were determined, as they said, to support each other to the last. They went to quarters every night, and had guard-boats for some miles down the river in communication with each other, and they threatened to hinder the sailing of the English oil ships until they were all off themselves; but they did not persist in making such an attempt,

The *Gazette* of the 13th of October, contains a statement of the number of slave-vessels, with the particulars relating to them, examined by his Majesty's ships *SNAPPER* and *PHEASANT* in the month of July, from which it appears that the total number was 16 ships, of which twelve were Portuguese, three French, and one Spanish; and these vessels, it is supposed, on the most moderate calculation, would carry from the coast 6,000 slaves. Besides which, in the same month, his Majesty's ship *MYRMIDON*, in the same period, in the Bight of Benin and its neighbourhood alone, examined 16 vessels carrying on the detestable traffic. These vessels, on a moderate computation, would carry from the coast 5,400 victims; though only one of them, the *ADELAIDE*, according to the tenor of the treaties, could be captured.

In the beginning of August, there were three hermaphrodite brigs and two schooners under the French flag, waiting for slaves at the Galinas: and about the end of September four other vessels, under the same flag, came to anchor off the bar, and were preparing to send their cargoes on shore to exchange for slaves.

Advices from Cape Coast Castle state, what we hope is not correct, that the Dutch Government have sent out to the Governor and residents of their settlement of Elwina Castle, full permission to sell canoes to the Portuguese and other slave-traders, thereby affording great facilities to that traffic; and that, in consequence, many slave-vessels had anchored at that port and been amply supplied.

The settlements on the Gold Coast had been unusually unhealthy this year. Among the deaths are those of the Governor-General of the Dutch settlements at Elwina, the Governor-General of the Danish settlement at Accra, and Mr. Gordon, Governor of the English settlements of the same place.

Extract of a Letter from Sierra Leone, dated September 24.

" From the tenor of your last letters I fully expected that his Majesty's Government would ere now have taken into their consideration the depressed state of commerce in this part of the British dominions, and, according to your expectations, have reduced the duties on African produce to an equality with others of his Majesty's islands and plantations; but, instead of this, the British colonies in Africa are not even put on a footing with foreign states.

" In corroboration of this, I need only notice two or three of the principal exports from our African colonies, viz.—Ox and cow hides, averaging 7½ pounds each, are charged a duty of 6d. per hide; and ox and cow hides imported from Buenos Ayres, averaging 20 pounds each, are only charged a duty of 10d. per hide. Other articles might be enumerated, to show that Government, instead of favouring the infant commerce of Africa, has actually denied her the privileges granted to foreign states.

" About a year ago, our merchants in St. Mary's succeeded in bringing a part of the gum trade to the banks of the Gambia; but just as they, after great expense and trouble, had accomplished this important end, Government, as it would seem, to thwart their endeavours, reduced the duty on gum from France, from 33s. 3d. to 12s. per cwt. and raised our duties from 11s. 10½d. to 12s. per cwt.; thus crushing in its infancy this valuable branch of African commerce.

" The same may be said respecting the excellent timber shipped from this place to Great Britain. As soon as we had established an extensive trade, employing from twenty to thirty large ships annually, in carrying timber from hence, Government imposed a duty of 10s. per load, which has at once annihilated this valuable branch of trade.

" Great Britain was the principal cause of the partial abolition of the slave trade, and what has she done to encourage honourable commerce? She has not even repealed the war duties on African produce. Though we have abolished the infernal slave traffic, still it is notorious that that trade is carried on to an enormous extent; and the murderous system adopted to elude detection has increased the measure of human misery tenfold. Who can read the faithful detail of Sir George Collier, and not feel chilled at the horrors of his narrative?

" The sickly season is now well advanced; it has hitherto proved the most fatal one ever known in this colony. Thirty Europeans have already fallen victims to the fever; most of these were new comers, but several old standards are also gone. In fact, every second European is no more; many of the coloured settlers have also died.

" The Gambia has been nearly as bad: Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Surgeons Gilder and Gillespie, and several others, are numbered with the dead.

" We are all anxiety for the return of our worthy Governor, Sir Charles MacCarthy, and hope he will bring no account of a change of measures adopted towards this neglected country."

From the Sierra Leone Gazette.

Saint Jago, April 30.—The inhabitants of this island are very evidently of the African race: they are generally tall and meagre in their persons, and seem as if they were miserably poor. They all speak Portuguese, and those who have much intercourse with the shipping chatter English tolerably well.—The island presents a most dreary, barren, and burnt-up appearance; and clouds of blackish coloured sand, driven by the strong winds now prevailing, are quite intolerable. Cultivation is carried on in the interior parts of the island; the best soil is found on the flats and sides of the ravines, and almost all kinds of European vegetables and fruits are here raised in very great abundance and perfection. It is in such situations where the alluvial soil is rich and fertile that the inhabitants have fixed their principal residences, and have formed farms; on their farms they rear cattle, sheep, horses, hogs, and almost all kinds of poultry, which they dispose of to the shipping upon very moderate terms in general.

In the market place of Porto Praya, there were daily exhibited for sale, cabbages, pumpkins, oranges, garlic, parsley, onions, Indian corn, sweet potatoes, yams, peas and water melons, in abundance, and very cheap—100 fine large oranges for a dollar; fowls were dearer than usual but four and five large ones were offered in the country for a dollar. An ox weighing 360lbs. cost thirty dollars; turkeys were a dollar to a dollar and a half each, and well grown pigs were sold for six or seven shillings. There is a breed of small horses of not a bad description; their average price appeared to be about forty dollars. Fine large jackasses were offered for sale for five and six dollars each; these animals are most useful to the inhabitants in carrying the produce of their farms to market. If any person would bring a hundred or more of these useful animals into the colony of Sierra Leone, he would be well paid for his trouble and

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expense; and it is to be hoped, that the enterprising spirit of our merchants will soon be extended to this speculative adventure, which, it is certain, would be found as advantageous to the interest and convenience of the colonists, as profitable to the person engaged in the transaction.

It is asserted, that the Slave Trade is carried on to as great an extent at the Cape de Verd Islands as it was in any former period; and the constant and regular intercourse which the inhabitants preserve with the Portuguese slave factories of Bissao and Cacheo fully warrant the strongest suspicions, if less evidence of their transactions were unknown. Every free inhabitant has a number of domestic slaves, and those who are fortunate in acquiring wealth were said to display their independence and consequence in their domestic circle, by an increased number of Africa's stolen children. There are a number of shops in the town, but they contained very little. There are only two or three merchants on the island, and they are supplied with goods chiefly from America. The exports from the island are not worth speaking of; the inhabitants are principally supported by the shipping, without which, indeed, they would soon be reduced to absolute wretchedness.

The inhabitants of Bonavista, St. Nicolas, and the other islands, with the exception of St. Jago, had publicly proclaimed the Constitution. A similar spirit of independence had manifested itself among the more respectable inhabitants of St. Jago; the respect, however, they owed to their Governor only protracted the public avowal of their intentions; but it now appears that they had grown weary of delay, and that the Commandant, Colonel Madina, assembled all the troops, and in a formal and most solemn manner declared for a free Constitution. He was then immediately solicited by the people and the soldiery to proceed, as their Representative, to the Cortes of Lisbon.

INTERESTING AFRICAN PUBLIC PAPER.

The subjoined is a literal Translation of a Letter written in Arabic, sent from Almamy Abdullah, Prince of Fouta Jallon, residing at Teembo, and the subordinate Chiefs of that nation, addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone:—

"To God alone belong adoration and thanks. To his name be praise given through all the earth.

"It is necessary that God alone be worshipped, and no distinction of men be thought of.

"To all the Blessed.—This writing comes from the faithful Almamy Abdullah, Mori Ali, and the persons of note, good men of Teembo and Fouta, who love peace:—more especially Wattifar Bobucary, Modi Yeyarha Congye, Chiefs of the Little River.

"Abdullah offers the inhabitants of Sierra Leone his wishes for their happiness and peace: the same is the prayer of Ali Houssein, Prince of both Labies; Mohadi Alifar, of Teembo; Mohamadou Marsee Yancobar, of Mediu; Mohamadou Jung, of Consobabie.

"Mohamadou Ibrahima, of Nonbo, and the faithful of the more interior districts, wish peace and joy to the Chieftain of Sierra Leone. Peace to all his good subjects!

"The Chiefs of Pouta being in health, wish health to all in the name of the most merciful God.

"The thing of consequence and weight which hath moved the faithful to thee and thine, shall be shown.

"The Mandingo country is torn by a civil war, occasioned by the angry disputes of two young men. Why do the Chiefs of the lands on the salt water allow it? Do not the advantages of that country belong to the Europeans as well as the Mandingoes? Why not force its inhabitants to be at peace, and not suffer two youths to desolate a fine country? Where will its inhabitants find shelter? Do they think Fouta, or Fouta's provinces shall receive them? They shall not.

"Therefore, in the name of God, his Apostle, and Jesus Christ, we entreat you to make peace between them.

"War desolates, brings hunger and distress, and in other respects is a great evil.

"Know ye who live in peace, that war is called waste and hunger.

"Let, therefore, your good and learned men, in your name, proceed to bring this dispute to an end; let peace, by your means, flourish among the true believers. Attend, we pray thee, to our desire. If you wish that the good things of Fouta and the interior should not be wanting for your pleasure and subsistence, make peace; how will you get the same if the Mandingo country is allowed to become a wilderness? We have heard of the old Mandingo war, no nation was so powerful in ending that dispute as the Europeans.

"Ye also, the Chiefs on the salt waters (among whom we would not forget Dalla Mahamadou), the above is sent to you.

"Forget not that Kencorie, of Port Loko, troubled that country; but at last in vengeance, God visited him with a violent death.

"We wish you all peace, health, and everlasting felicity."

Brighton.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROYAL CHAPEL, BRIGHTON.

Brighton, Tuesday evening, January 1, 1822.—This chapel, founded by his Majesty, has been consecrated this day by the Bishop of Chichester. At an early hour the principal avenues leading to the chapel were occupied by carriages; and though the morning was very unfavourable, the solicitors for admission were very numerous.

• The exterior of the chapel is a simple and elegant structure, but the approach to it is not completely finished. The chapel is fitted up in a style of suitable magnificence. The pulpit and reading-desk were richly covered with crimson velvet; the communion-table decorated with similar costliness and encompassed with a gilded railing. A gold chalice, &c., stood on the table. The gallery projecting over one extremity of the chapel, is chastely and beautifully painted. It was occupied by the gentlemen and choristers of his Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's.

At the opposite extremity, and separate from the aisle, is the space assigned to the Sovereign and his suite.

A few minutes before 11 o'clock, the chapel was opened to those who had previously obtained tickets to witness the ceremonial of its consecration.

His Majesty entered the chapel at about half an hour after eleven o'clock. The curtains, placed between that portion of the chapel assigned to his Majesty and the aisle, were thrown aside, and in the centre discovered the King, dressed in a rich blue uniform.

On the left, and separated from his Majesty by a crimson curtain we observed the Princess Esterhazy, Lady Harcourt, Lord and Lady Conyngham. On the right of his Majesty stood Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, and several other distinguished members of his Majesty's suite.

The Bishop, his Chaplains, the Preacher, the officiating Minister, and other clergy, passed through the middle aisle to the communion-table, repeating, alternately, the six first verses of the 21st psalm—the remaining verses by the choir.

The Bishop and the Chaplains, went with in the rails; the officiating Minister to the desk, and the Preacher near to the pulpit.

The Bishop, sitting in his chair, received the King's mandate for the consecration of the chapel, which he placed on the communion-table.

The usual prayers at the consecration of a chapel then followed after which—

The Bishop, sitting, the act of consecration was read by the Chancellor, and signed by the Bishop, and ordered to be registered. The Bishop concluded with pronouncing the final blessing, after which "God save the King" was finely given by the choir.

The service concluded about half-past 2 o'clock.

The chapel presented a *coup d'œil* of imposing magnificence and effect. The communion-table and organ, as well as the royal seat are splendidly adorned with draperies of crimson velvet ornamented with gold. The communion plate is also of the richest and most valuable description. The structure, from its size and extent, affords room for a large congregation; and from the ample expansion of its roof, is peculiarly adapted for the performance of sacred music. This we remarked, was particularly exemplified while the choir was performing some sweet passages in the *Te Deum*, and also in the responses of the common service (the beautiful composition of Jomelli). The natural harmony was here much increased by the peculiar and happy adaptation of the building to the purposes of sound.

His Majesty was dressed in uniform (a pelisse coat of the Royal Tenth Hussars), and we have the satisfaction to add, that he appeared in excellent health, and seemed to pay undivided attention to the sacred duties of the day; as also to derive considerable satisfaction from the beautiful performances of the choir. The organ was played by Mr. Attwood, organist of St. Paul's Cathedral. His Majesty was attended in the royal seat, by the Clerk of the Closet, the very Rev. the Dean of Hereford. Among the clergy in attendance we observed the Rev. Messrs. Tayler, Everard, Lovell, &c.

The congregation was numerous and distinguished. Among those present we remarked—Prince and Princess Esterhazy, Duke of Dorset, Lord Ravensworth and daughters, Lady Normanby, Lord and Lady Howard of Effingham, Marquis and Marchioness Conyngham, Lady Elizabeth, Lord Francis, and Lady Maria Conyngham, Lord and Lady Harcourt, Sir B. Bloomfield, Lord Gwydyr (Lord High Chamberlain), Sir A. Barnard, Sir E. Nagle, Lord Eardley, Lady Saye and Sele, Hon. Miss Twisselton, &c.—*Brighton Chronicle*.

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London Fashions for January.

(From Ackermann's Repository of Arts, Fashions, &c.)

Morning Dress.—A high gown composed of bright rose-coloured levantine; the bottom of the skirt is trimmed with a broad *bouillonné* of the same material, above which is a flounce edged with velvet to correspond, and disposed in a scroll pattern; there are two rows, each turned the same way, and a rouléau of levantine placed between. The body meets in front; it is ornamented with straps placed bias, and each finished with a Brandenbourg; the back is plain, and extremely narrow at the bottom. Spring collar, trimmed with a full fall of the same material. Sleeve moderately wide; cuff cut in three points, finished by Brandenbourgs. The epaulette is extremely novel and pretty. Head-dress, a *demi-cornette* composed of Urling's lace; the caul is something higher than they have been lately worn; narrow border made very full; a bouquet of roses is placed rather far back. The hair is parted so as to display almost the whole of the forehead, and is dressed lightly at the sides. Black kid shoes. Limerick gloves.

Full Dress.—A white satin round gown: the bottom of the skirt is trimmed in a very novel style with blond intermixed with white satin. The *corsage* is cut low and square; the bust is edged with a plaiting of satin, and the lower part of it is ornamented in front with satin edged with narrow blond, and disposed in a scroll pattern. The sleeve is a mixture of blond and white satin; the former full, and confined by lozenges of the latter, the point of each finished by a Provence rose; the bottom of the sleeve is confined by a band to correspond. White satin sash, embroidered at each end in a bouquet of roses, and tied in full bows and long ends. Head-dress *en cheveux*. The front hair is parted to display the forehead, and falls very low at the sides of the face in light loose ringlets. The hind hair is disposed in plaits, through which a wreath of Provence roses is carelessly twisted. Ear-rings and necklace diamonds; the latter is a *negligé*. White kid gloves, and white *gros de Naples* slippers.

Distressing Occurrence.

An accident of the most dreadful nature took place on Monday evening, Dec. 31, at the Rev. Mr. Murry's, No. 22, Charles-street Berkeley-square. About half-past six in the evening the family were alarmed by the report of a pistol in the upper part of the mansion; and on proceeding to the nursery, from whence the sound emanated, Miss Mary Gayton, a beautiful young lady, only 17 years of age, and the sister of Mrs. Murry, was found lying on the ground, weltering in her blood, having been shot (unintentionally) by her nephew, a youth of between nine and ten years of age, who had incautiously obtained possession of his father's pistol. The consternation of the family may be more easily conceived than described. Mr. Bradley, a surgeon, residing on the spot, was immediately sent for, and arrived within three minutes after the fatal accident, but life was instantaneously extinct. The ball had passed in at the left breast, and had divided two of the principal arteries. The deceased reeled against the bed, and exclaimed, "Oh! James," the name of the infant aggressor, and immediately fell dead upon the floor.

On Tuesday, at twelve o'clock, a Coroner's inquest was taken upon the body by Anthony Gell, Esq., at the sign of the Running Footman, Charles-street, Berkeley-square.

The nursery-maid was examined by the Coroner, and from her evidence we collected, that the deceased was on a visit to her sister; and on the evening in question was sitting in the nursery with the maid and an infant, when Master James Murry entered, and pointing a pistol, said to the deceased, in the most playful and unconscious manner, "See, aunt, Pa's lent me his pistol—I'll shoot you;" and immediately pulled the trigger. The deceased rose, uttered a scream, exclaimed "Oh, James, James!" and then reeled upon the side of the bed, from which she fell to the ground. She (the maid) gave instant alarm, but the report of the pistol had brought the family up stairs, when the dreadful spectacle presented itself of the lifeless corpse of the young lady. The poor girl was drowned in tears during the whole time of giving her evidence, and when she spoke of the deceased, described her as the most kind young lady she had ever known, and that she was beloved by the infant family of her sister, eight in number, the one implicated in this unfortunate affair being the eldest.

Mr. Bradley, the surgeon, of John-street, Berkeley-square, who was called in, deposed to the situation in which he discovered the deceased, and stated, that although he was instantly present, life had fled before his arrival.

The Jury then proceeded to view the body, and the sight of such a beautiful young creature, thus untimely cut off, drew tears from every one present. On their return to the house where the inquest was held, the Coroner made some feeling remarks on the dreadful state of mind in which the relatives of this unfortunate young lady must be placed, and hoped it would operate as a caution to all who kept fire-arms in

their houses, to be rigidly particular to prevent their being placed in improper hands.

The Jury instantly returned a verdict of *accidental death*.

It appears, upon inquiry, that the children had been amusing themselves with an infantine procession and representation of the coronation, and on New Year's day a little entertainment was to have been given, for the purpose of gratifying the juvenile performers. On the night previous (Monday) the eldest boy, Master James Murry, requested his father to lend him his pistol, as he was to represent the Champion. To indulge the child, the pistol was brought; it had not been used for upwards of a year and half, and was very rusty.

Arctic Land Expedition.

AMUSEMENTS AT FORT CUMBERLAND.

In our last account of the progress of the Land Arctic Expedition under Lieutenant, now Captain Franklin, we mentioned that they reached their wintering ground in the beginning of October, at Cumberland Fort, from whence they were to set out in the proper season, upon the more important and hazardous remainder of their journey. Mr. Williams, the principal agent of the Hudson's Bay Company, and dignified with the title of Governor, being resolved to prepare his visitors for some of the scenes which were to become part of their future occupation, proposed to Mr. Franklin and Mr. Richardson a wolf-hunt in the beginning of January. Those gentlemen having practised the necessary accomplishment of running with snow-shoes, were qualified to join in the hunt, and the wolf, against whom the attack was meditated, had already roused the anger of the inhabitants of the fort by killing several of their dogs. Indeed, upon one occasion the ferocious animal had attacked two of the company's servants as they were crossing Cumberland Lake with a quantity of fish, and obliged them, after having torn one of them in a desperate manner, to leave the provision behind. At the time the hunt was proposed there was a great fall of snow upon the ground, and the track of the formidable white wolf, which had long so persecuted the fort, was observed on the outside of the stockade. The thermometer at the time was 39 below Zero; and the wolf had just abandoned the lake in despair of getting hold of any living creature with which to satisfy his ravenous appetite. The hunters set out with three dogs, and were well armed. Having followed the track of the wolf through the woods about two miles, they started him as he was devouring the bark of a tree. After a most toilsome and disastrous exertion for upwards of two hours, three of the half-breeds succeeded in destroying the wolf, which had been completely harassed by hunger and fatigue. The officers of the expedition and of the Company, who had not been in the habit of scouring the woods in snow-shoes, presented the most miserable spectacle. In their efforts to get through the thickets their faces had been frightfully scratched, and their duffie coats and chin cloths—the latter being put on to keep their chins and cheeks from being frozen—were torn to pieces. Under these circumstances, it was found necessary to kindle a fire with all possible despatch, and even before that could be accomplished, it was feared that the intense cold would more woefully disfigure some of the poor adventurers. The warmth of the blaze from the brambles and trees soon removed this gloomy apprehension, and the wolf was immediately skinned and drawn for the purpose of being roasted. The animal, however, was so old and weather-beaten, that not one of his hungry pursuers could put a tooth in the most delicate part of him.

A report had for some years prevailed within a circuit of some thousands of miles, both amongst the natives and the British settlers and the servants of the two companies, that an Indian conjuror named Ka-ka-wa-rente, who resided far away amongst the most distant northern tribes, was revered as one of their deities by the surrounding people, and was actually capable of performing the greatest wonders, in consequence of his awful intercourse with supernatural agents. Mr. Williams, who had learned that this extraordinary person was within 500 miles of the fort, and that he had very recently foretold some remarkable calamities that soon occurred amongst the tribes, sent a messenger to him, requesting that he would as soon as possible appear at the fort. The conjuror gladly accepted the invitation, and reached the post at the latter end of January, accompanied by two mortal agents, named Wap-pisthaw and Tappotum. Upon his arrival, the half-breeds paid homage to him, and even several officers of the company placed implicit reliance in his power, so high was his character throughout the land, for an intercourse with the world of spirits. Wagers were laid upon the effect of his magic, and the officers of the expedition were surprised at the readiness with which their ridicule was answered, by the proposal of considerable bets. In reply to a question put to Ka-ka-wa-rente, as to what he was able to do, he said "Every thing." He could bring back a wife to a husband, or separate man and wife for ever. He could, in fact, reconcile things the most contradictory in their nature. It was in vain that attempts were made to weaken his power with his agents above or below, and as

absurd to try to imprison his body as his mind." Mr. Williams said he should be content with an experiment upon Ka-ka-wa-rente's body, and the next evening was fixed for the trial. Ka-ka-wa-rente, not thinking it respectful to the invisible powers with which he communicated to request their assistance within the walls of those who doubted their infallibility, pitched his leathern tent in the woods, within half a mile of the fort, and called upon the Governor to put him to the test. Wappisthaw and Tappotum stood at the door of the tent, the former blowing a whistle, the latter beating a drum, when the principal inhabitants of the fort salied out with lighted torches in their hands. The conjuror was rather struck with the preparations at first, but he soon laughed away the fears of some of his admirers, who had observed that he was not insensible to the cold. The Governor then produced a quantity of stout new ropes, and having served in the navy for several years, and placing some reliance in his own strength, undertook to imprison the conjuror in the tent. With this view, having stripped Ka-ka-wa-rente naked, he tied his arms and legs together, and put so many seaman's knots upon the ropes, that the efforts to get out of such thraldom could not but be attended with excessive pain to any one not under the immediate care of the Gods. The conjuror was then placed on his back within the tent, at the top of which was a small hole for the admission of the particular genius who was to release him. In a few moments a great bustle was heard within the tent: the whistle and drum played up, as it were, with the very spirit of inspiration; still the Governor and the officers of the expedition has such reliance upon the seaman's twist, that while others looked to the top of the tent in the expectation of seeing the ropes fly out of it, they kept their eyes upon Wappisthaw and Tappotum, in order that the magician might be under no compliment to human agency. A quarter of an hour was occupied in this manner, when a loud cry was heard from the tent, and immediately after Ka-ka-wa-rente was pulled out in a state of insensibility, pinioned as before, and frozen almost to death, notwithstanding his laborious efforts to anticipate the work of his invisible friend.

The publication of this circumstance had the effect of removing from the minds of the thousands of Indians, who had placed such confidence in the power of the conjuror, all respect for his former exertions. He slunk back to his own people, but was no longer received as a superior. A few months afterwards, he was seen hunting with his companions, whose hardships he was compelled to share from the moment he was proved to be a liar. It was a wish expressed with a great deal of fervency by Mr. Franklin, upon observing the exceeding docility of the Indians, and their contempt of all attempts at imposture, that the religious societies of England would send out amongst them some of those excellent men who are so easily procured to visit other countries, for the purpose of giving religious instruction where it would be most gratefully received.

A HOAX.

That scurrilous and silly paper, JOHN BULL, has had the following hoax played upon it:—

In our paper of the 21st ult. we exposed a *hoax* which had been played off upon the JOHN BULL, little thinking at the time that it would lead to another piece of wagery, which is really too good to be passed over without notice. We by no means approve of tricks of this description; but in the present instance we give the authors of the joke credit for their dexterity, and we think that even some good may result from it. It seems from the last number of the JOHN BULL, that the information upon which Weaver wrote to Mr. Robinson, of Gateshead, respecting a tenant of Mr. Lambton's being ordered to quit the house which he rented, because a copy of that paper had been seen lying on a table therein, was signed "Thomas Sly," the name of a half-insane panper, an inmate of the poor-house of this city. Mr. Robinson wrote to Weaver in reply, stating that the information was false. "Here," quoth the editor, "there is no joke against us yet;" you see "we are not to be hoaxed!" "But" he adds, "There is a joke behind." Very true! There is, indeed, a *joke* behind, but one the editor of the BULL little suspected.

"Many a shaft at random sent,
"Finds mark the archer little meant."

He then informs his readers, (in order to show that he has *not* been HOAXED), that he has "discovered the authors of the first letter signed THOMAS SLY, conveying the *false* information." Now for the important issue. Let us come to the delinquents:—

The two persons who attempted this deception are, Alfred Healey Johnson, clerk to Mr. Brown, barrister in Durham, a protégé of Mr. Lambton; and Edmund Craster, son of Mr. Lambton's steward, a clerk in the office of Mr. Brownlow of Durham, Mr. Lambton's law agent!

It so happens, that all the persons here mentioned are the mere creations of fiction, there being no such individuals, we are well assured

in existence—certainly not in Durham. We think this a pretty tolerable commentary on the assertion of the Editors of the BULL, that "they were determined not to be hoaxed, and that they never were hoaxed during the whole of the affair!" We have already said that the trick practised on the BULL might lead to good. The conclusion to be drawn is, that its readers are culpable in placing the slightest confidence in a paper the conductors of which are so easily duped; and it is only rational to infer, that the generality of the atrocious imputations in that Journal on private and public characters have no better foundation than that of anonymous or fictitious authority.—*Durham Chronicle*.

Liberty.

Breathes there the man, whose servile breast
Is sunk in languor's fatal rest,
Whilst o'er him, 'mid the gathering storm,
Oppression rears her hateful form?
Who, when her foot to earth would tread
Those rights for which his fathers bled,
Hopes not, nor strives to stay their fall,
But one by one resigns them all?
Breathes such a man? I will not ask
What country gave him birth:
He did not spring from English mould;
For such a soul, thus tame, thus cold,
Would rouse his angry sires of old,
And drag them back to earth.
Breathes there the wretch, whose feeble eye
Ne'er pierc'd the film of Slavery—
Who never felt the glow of shame
O'erspread his cheek at Freedom's name—
Nor blush'd to see himself accurst,
Of Slaves, the veriest and the worst?
Breathes such a wretch? O'er eastern climes,
Unheeded, let him roam;
His law a haughty Tyrant's frown;
A den of Slaves his home.
There let him dwell; for climes like these
May well the dastard spirit please;
Where burning suns and deserts dry
Parch up the springs of energy;
Where even language owns the sway
That tramples on the Soul's decay,
And cannot find a word to tell
That sound which Freemen tone so well,
There let him dwell, to Freedom lost,
Contented, if he can,
Whilst Nature, shrinking from his shade,
Shall view with scorn the thing she made,
And blush to call it—Man.
But I, whom northern climes have rear'd,
Whose cheek the cutting wind has sear'd,
Whose ear hath fancied as it past
That Freedom spoke in every blast;
Whose foot hath wander'd with delight,
O'er Snowdon's cliff and Skiddaw's height,
Where Britain's ancient sons defied
The haughty Romans baffled pride;
Who oft have trac'd th' historic page
(The record of a former age)
Which paints my hardy sires of yore,
The hopes they felt, the fears they bore;—
Shall I, thus nurtur'd, basely tame;
Renounce the glories of their name,
And quit the path they trod?
Whilst busy infamy shall trace
The recreant losel of his race,
His children's scorn, his sire's disgrace—
The outcast of his God?
Never!—oh! never!—Curse the thought
That dwells on ease by Freedom bought!
Wither the heart that does not burn
When Justice weeps o'er Freedom's urn!
And be that eye in darkness set
Which views, nor views it with regret!
Mine be the choice my fathers made—
Be mine their battle cry,
When fighting for their rights of yore,
Dauntless and brave each warrior swore
"To conquer or to die."

C. J. E.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Letter Inserted in John Bull.

SIR,

To the Editor of John Bull.

I observe a Letter in the Calcutta Journal to day, signed a MILITARY FRIEND, and I must say, that a more astonishing production, from an Officer, I never saw in any Calcutta Newspaper. How any Officer could write such a letter for publication is to me truly wonderful. In the name of common sense what does he mean by it? Does he really believe that such a letter will do good to any cause? Does he think himself at liberty as an Officer to insult the Government of the Country? If he does he has odd notions of duty. He says he "congratulates the Natives from the bottom of his heart, at the good the Editor of the Calcutta Journal has done them; and he hopes to see the time, when it will no longer be in the power of those who are supposed to protect them from fraud and violence to harass them even in legal Courts, and under "RULES and REGULATIONS." Here is pretty language for an Officer to use. But this is just what might be expected from a Free a Press in India, that is a Press freed from all sense of propriety. An Officer, a Company's Servant, paid and supported by the Company, asserting publicly that one of the Calcutta Newspapers has done more good than all the Laws and Regulations that ever were framed, and hoping for the time when there will be no legal courts to harass the Natives! I really confess my astonishment at such writings, and I am sorry to see them come from any Officer. They will do his cause no good. They will not advance the liberty of the Press. They will retard it. They will compel the Government of the country to interfere, and lay restrictions upon it, for if suffered to go on, "they will lay the foundation of mischiefs political and social, which the oldest of us may live to deplore."

John Bull, Saturday, May 18, 1822.

B.

Note of the Editor.

We have always been of opinion that the most effectual way to combat absurdity is to make it public; and thus, by an appeal to the common sense of mankind, to make false reasoning defeat itself. It is with this impression, and for this purpose, that we extract from the pages of JOHN BULL the Letter quoted above; and although we believe that with most men the bare perusal of it would be sufficient to convince them of the superabundance of its malicious spirit, and the total absence of reasoning and clear conception throughout; yet, as it is evident that there are some (however few) who have misconceived the spirit and meaning of the Letter of A MILITARY FRIEND, and who may therefore be led away by the sophistry of his Commentator, we shall offer a few brief remarks on this precious composition.

At the commencement of his Epistle, B. says, It is truly wonderful to him that an Officer could write such a Letter;—but only a dozen lines further on, all his wonder ceases; and he says, that it is really no more than might be expected from a Free Press! If there be any fault, therefore, it is, according to this mode of reasoning, not in the Writer of the Letter, because he is doing no more than might be expected; but in the Free Press, of which such things are the inevitable consequence;—so that the whole guilt and responsibility is thus thrown on the head of him who gave us this Free Press, and lauded it, as it deserved to be, as the most powerful instrument that good Governments could wield, and as being fraught with blessings to both Governors and Governed.

To say, therefore, that the inevitable consequence of a Free Press is to lay the foundation of mischiefs, political and social, which the oldest of us may live to deplore, is to belie the examples of all History, which shew that those countries where no Free Press exists are most afflicted by evils, and that in proportion to its degree of freedom nations are more tranquil and more happy, till it arrives at that spot where the Press is more Free than in any other country on earth, where is sure to be found less of commotion and dissatisfaction than in any quarter of the globe, as is the case in America, an example and a fact that is worth volumes of arguments to the contrary. It is moreover, not merely to belie all History, but to outrage common sense, and

to insult the wisdom and judgement of Lord Hastings, who pronounced the highest eulogium on the blessings of a Free Press that could have been uttered, and whose opinion of its advantages and importance to India has been corroborated by subsequent events; since it has unquestionably effected much good, in creating every day a greater deference to public opinion, and has been productive of no one single evil that can be named, except a ridiculous and unaccountable irritation among those who ought in the consciousness of their strength and integrity to have been the last to feel alarmed for their dignity or their peace.

The Commentator asks, of this MILITARY FRIEND'S Letter, "In the name of common sense, what does he mean by it?" He might well invoke this useful quality as his guide;—but he has invoked it in vain. If he had been under the influence of this, he would have seen the meaning clearly: but as his very invocation shews he doubted whether he understood the meaning, why did he undertake to comment on that which he did not understand?

Again he asks, "Does he think himself at liberty as an Officer to insult the Government of the Country?"—What strange notions this writer may have as to what constitutes an insult and what does not—we are not prepared to say; but to us it appears that even an Officer, who takes for granted that all Lord Hastings's professions regarding the Press were sincere and true, and who acts on that belief, pays to his Lordship, and the Government of which he is at the Head, the highest compliment, particularly in those days of duplicity, when the professions and acts of Governments generally are so much at variance with each other; while on the other hand, the Commentator who supposes that this Government could be weak enough (like a wayward child impatient of contradiction) to feel every difference of opinion as an insult offered to its dignity, as if it alone monopolized all the wisdom and understanding of the country; and who, besides, in the face of all that the Government has said and done, and received praises for, from all parts of the world regarding its liberation of the Press, should have the hardihood and the folly to tell it, that if this liberty be not crushed by other means than legal ones, a thousand mischiefs will spring up, which we shall all live to deplore; such a man, we say, grossly insults the Government, and calumniates it, not only as being incapable of wielding the sceptre of this extensive empire, but as being in a manner the source of the very evils that his sagacious brain predicts as likely to overwhelm the land.

The Press has now been nominally Free for four years; and on looking back to the early Numbers of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL, we find that in the first of these years, much greater freedom was used in speaking both of European and Indian Polities than has been used since, and that the effect of experience in our vocation has been to moderate greatly the tone and manner of our remarks, as well as those of our Correspondents; and this effect would have been accelerated still more, but for the fuel which has been from time to time added to the ardour of a desire to reform evils (if it be not an insult to Government to suppose any can exist,) by those whose duty it was to have encouraged rather than to persecute, or prosecute, or oppose the efforts of the only Press in India that acted in the conscientious belief of the wishes of Government being in strict accordance with their professions.

Who, for instance, that remembers the Vestry War, did not see in that brief period, to what lengths the Press might be driven on either side, by the pressure of the hand of power? Yet after all the tumult and discord, has any evil resulted from it? Is there one man in India less attached to the Government or less obedient to the Laws? We believe not a single public evil could be named as resulting from that contest; though we know of much public good. Among other things, it has by this time convinced the Court at home as well as the Government here, that Englishmen, though their Servants, have still some notion of their civil and municipal rights; and that in conjunction with that high and lofty spirit on which they rely for the defence and preservation of the country from Native insurrection or Foreign invasion, there is also a rooted determination not to be trodden on by the assumers of illegal and unjust power, whether in the shape of a Select Vestry, or in any other form.

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And it is well that it is so:—for were it possible to extinguish the repugnance to despotic power, and substitute a servile and slavish fear in the hearts of Englishmen instead, in what should we then be superior to the Natives themselves? If the Government would have high and elevated men for their defenders, they must not attempt to root out the qualities and privileges on which that elevation of mind is grounded. They must be taken together, for the suppression of the one would necessarily be attended with the annihilation of the other.

Again, who that remembers the three years war between all the Papers of the Settlement, or of India indeed, and the CALCUTTA JOURNAL single handed, in which the greatest possible licence was granted to all parties except ourselves (at least we never heard of any of the others being checked as we have been), can for a moment believe that the Liberty of the Press, which during all that period of its licentiousness gave rise to no one single public evil, is now, when it is every day becoming more and more moderate, about to lay the foundation of mischiefs, political and social, which the oldest of us may live to deplore? And lastly—Who that remembers the setting up of JOHN BULL, which by the united influence of every aid that could be brought to it was to crush us at a blow, and to put the Press of India on a strictly constitutional footing, and elevate it to a pitch of excellence that it had never attained before, can for a moment believe that after the first six months of its violent infancy had passed without a single public evil arising from its almost unbounded licentiousness, a host of mischiefs are now to spring up, when the angry and turbulent spirit that hovered over the Press during that period is banished from among us, and never likely to return?

Great stress appears to be laid by the Writer on the heinousness of the Officer's crime, he being a Servant, and paid and supported by the Company. Hear this! ye free born and independant Britons. Is this, or is it not, a Libel on the whole Service, from the oldest on the List down to the last imported Candidate for disease and riches, for all are equally Servants though all are not equally paid. It is in direct terms asserting that as far as the expression of opinions is concerned, no man who is a Servant, and who is paid by the Company, ought to assume it for a moment. We do not happen to be one of those, (our evil stars having destined us to tread a more thorny path to wealth and honors);—but suppose for a moment we were to reverse the argument, in order to expose its absurdity, and say thus: The JOURNAL receives no support whatever from the Government, it does not even pay for the one solitary copy deposited by order at the Chief Secretary's Office. On the contrary, the Government receives from the JOURNAL and its Subscribers about Four Thousand Rupees Monthly for Postage: THEREFORE, we are at liberty to say any thing we please of it, but it ought to indulge in no freedom of opinion regarding us. This argument, absurd as it is, is quite as logical and as legitimate as that of the Commentator on the Officer's Letter—and our only motive for putting it is to shew to what such a principle would lead.

But here, it seems, is the Officer's great offence,—He congratulates the Natives on the benefit which they have derived from the salutary exercise of a Free Press, and he hopes to see the time when it will be no longer in the power of those who are supposed to protect them from fraud and violence to harrass them even in legal Courts, and under Rules and Regulations "Here"—exclaims this Oracle "here is pretty language for an Officer to use!—But (he adds) this is just what might be expected from a Free Press" Is it? we reply, then where is the wonder? and why not blame distinctly and unequivocally the giver of that Free Press, if its inevitable consequences are mischief and evil? The climax of this man's absurdity however, is this: The OFFICER hopes that the benefits of a Free Press will be sooner or later extended to the Interior of India also—and that bribing, and favor, and corruption and injustice, (which may as well exist under the cover of legal Courts and Rules and Regulations as without them), will be so exposed through its influence, that the Natives will be no longer harrassed by those who are supposed to protect them from the very fraud and violence to which they are now often subject. We hope so too. But this Writer tortures the sense of the OFFICER into a directly opposite meaning. The OFFICER hopes to see the Courts reformed. The Writer says that he hopes for the

period when there shall be no Courts at all!! We could not have supposed it possible that any man could have made so gross a blunder. Well might he invoke the name of common sense to know what the writer meant.

If this B—is so ignorant of Indian History, or of the present state of the country, as to imagine that neither Natives nor Europeans can possibly be harrassed even in Legal Courts, and under the power of those who are supposed to protect them from fraud and violence, he must be ill-informed indeed. Are all the Parliamentary Reports on Indian Affairs to go for nothing? all the evidence produced by men who have written on the History and Administration of India to be cancelled? all the Petitions against the Proceedings of Mofussil Courts, and Appeals against their Decisions, presenting every day, to be destroyed? Are we to expunge from our recollection cases of convicted Bribery among Officers of Courts, such as that scene of iniquity laid open by the Press in Mr. Reid's Case before the Supreme Court? Are we to forget the facts of men being out of employment, and others removed to less responsible situations, because of convicted corruption or injustice in their public offices? Are we to shut our eyes to the common frailties of human nature, and to suppose that though "the heart of man is disposed to evil" in every other country of the earth, and that he can only be kept in the right way by having both the fear of God and man before his eyes; yet in India, without the check of public opinion through the Press, all men are immaculate, and neither the temptation to do ill, nor the weakness to submit to it, are to be found? Are all to sink into nothing before the unerring wisdom of this Correspondent of the BULL, who is astonished like a child at what he does not understand?

Lord Hastings said,—It was salutary even for Supreme Authority, when its intentions were most pure, to look to the controul of public scrutiny—We believe that never was a sounder or more important doctrine uttered. But if it be salutary for Supreme Authority to stand in awe of public opinion, must it not be still more so for Subordinate Authorities—removed as they are at such a distance from close observation, divided as they are into so many ramifications, and exposed as they are to far greater temptations, with less strength or experience to resist them? To us, it appears that such a question admits but of one answer.

It is another deep and unpardonable offence in this man's eyes, to say, that a Calcutta Newspaper has done more good than all the Laws and Regulations that ever were framed. This is an opinion which the OFFICER may perhaps entertain:—it is one, however, that we do not;—though we should not deny to another the liberty of saying so if he really believed it, any more than we should deny him the liberty to say that the JOURNAL had done more harm to India than plague, pestilence, and famine put together, if that were his belief. Every man, we conceive, has a right to form and to utter his opinion, be it what it may, subject to the test of public examination; if it be a right one, let him enjoy the credit of it; if it be a wrong one let it be proved to be so, and the odium of it be on his head. Altho' we do not think that the Indian Press has done more for India than all the Laws and Regulations that ever were framed, yet we believe that the English Press has: for, without the exposures that have taken place in Parliament on points of its former history, and the dissemination of these throughout England by the Press, the Court of Directors as a Body, and the Board of Controul as their Censors, never would have stood in that fear of Public Opinion which they now do; consequently the English Press, which has inspired this fear, HAS really been the cause of all the good that even the good Laws and Regulations have effected, the one being the remote and the other the proximate cause of the same effect.

IF, however, the Government of this country, could only bring themselves to what we should deem the wise resolution of letting the Liberty of the Press, like the Liberty of Conscience, the Liberty of Person, or the Liberty of Property, be defended and protected by the Law alone, then we do firmly and honestly believe that it would be the best Auxiliary that they could have in their service—and that more good would be effected by it than by all the Rules and Regulations that could be enacted.—BURKE, whom JOHN BULL strangely quotes as his

Monday, May 20, 1822.

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political model, considered the Liberty of the Press in India as likely to be one of the most efficient instruments of reforming abuses there. CURRAN, we believe, said on some occasion, —Give me but the Liberty of the Press and Trial by Jury, and I will yield up all besides. But what need have we to search in other lands or other times for authority as to its inestimable value, when we have the eloquent Reply of Lord Hastings to the Madras Address., still ringing in our ears, every syllable of it graven on men's hearts, and treasured up to accompany him wherever he goes, as the greatest eulogium that can be paid to his penetration as a Statesman, his feelings as an Englishman, and his lofty and fearless consciousness of strength and dignity as a Peer of the Realm.

East Indian Army.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

For myself, and in behalf of my countrymen, I beg to return my grateful thanks to the Gentleman who signed himself "A COMPANY'S OFFICER," in a letter which appeared in your Paper of the 7th instant, for the polite and able manner in which he has noticed our case, and commented on our conduct, the consideration of which led him to propose the establishment of a Regiment, to be Officered by Gentlemen of respectable characters born in this country.

Being one of the community whose case has been so liberally advocated by the Gentleman in question, it would be vain in me to mention any thing in support of his arguments, beyond this assertion, that we should consider it our greatest pride and happiness to uphold the interests of Government, were we to be employed in the manner suggested: and I am convinced that we should not fall much short in zeal and ability to those European Gentlemen who now form the Army of the Honorable Company. I shall say no more for the present; but conclude with repeating my unqualified thanks to the author of that letter, and with assuring you, Sir, that I am your very humble servant,

May 15, 1822.

GEORGIUS.

Single or Married Life.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

In your Paper of the 10th appears a letter signed W. D. which is one of those extraordinary productions that I am induced to think would not have appeared before the Public; except that your readiness to oblige your Correspondents by impartially inserting in your Paper their various lucubrations, often, I have no doubt, induce you to promulgate opinions diametrically opposite to your own. Aware as I am of my inability to answer in a proper manner the arguments of W. D. (though it is not from the depth or weight that I experience any difficulty), yet I cannot refrain from saying a word or two in behalf of that charming creature, Woman.

Your Correspondent tells us "the happiness of a Bachelor is in his own hands: of a Married Man in those of his Spouse:" What! must a man when he gives his heart and hand to the woman of his choice, make over at the same time the proper use of his reason, and become a mere puppet in her hands? If so, he certainly places his happiness at the disposal of his Spouse; and even then I think his case by no means a hopeless one, for there are women of sense, of good sense, and many of them. That the extremes of happiness and misery are to be found in the married state, I believe no one will dispute; but the proportions of each by W. D.'s statement, I think every unprejudiced person will dispute. For my own part, I think if the figures were reversed it would be nearer the mark by saying, as 20 : 1: Happiness: Misery.

What a pity, Sir, that your Correspondent had not lived in "the Patriarchal days," that he might have had an opportunity of using that *discretionary power*, with the sanction of the law, of divorcing his Wife the moment she ceased to be agreeable. What a delightful state of Society, where a man could say, "come, and

she cometh—go, and she goeth;" If the same *truly noble* privilege existed in the present day, I have not quite so barbarous an opinion of my countrymen, as to think we should find very many who would be *noble minded* enough to take advantage of it; no, not even if "groaning under the tyranny of a vixen," for notwithstanding our principles of honor and finer feelings may sometimes be smothered by force of habit and a vicious state of Society, yet we sometimes trace their influence (feeble perhaps) in the conduct of the most depraved. Marriage is too sacred a contract to be broken merely from a non-amalgamation of dispositions; nothing can justify such an act, except where a man's happiness and honor would otherwise be destroyed.

Your Correspondent speaks with much pathos, on the *Liberty* and *Independence* of a Bachelor; Do pray ask him what are the principal habits and privileges which constitute this said *Liberty* and *Independence*? He will perhaps tell you, that a Bachelor is lord and master of his own house, that he can go out when and where he pleases, without being questioned, can breakfast early or late, dine out every day in the week, or if he should chance to come home to dine, with some half dozen *picked-up* friends, and for want of management he finds his servants have provided nothing to eat, he is at *liberty* to abuse them as much as he pleases; that, he can go reeling to bed, or not go at all; that an odd earring or bangle may be found in his room, without giving rise to awkward questions; that he may bathe in the hall, keep his horse in the verandah, and his dogs in the bed room: Granted. I allow him all these and a great many others equally enviable; and yet I think if a just balance were struck, we should find all those Bachelors who have been a few years in the country, by far less independent than the married men; and I have no doubt but there are many in this part of the world, who could bear me out in the assertion, except that they would feel some little compunction in doing so: but I fear I am growing too serious, for I am half inclined to think your Correspondent is but in joke all this time, indeed I hope he is; if serious, I am sure he ought be pitied, for I cannot think any man would become such a decided antematrimonialist, unless urged to it by some distressing and *fundamental* cause! Has he had a Jewah lately, and in the agonies of despair and *hopeless love*, poured forth his bitterness to the world, (through the CALCUTTA JOURNAL), hoping to make converts to his newly-coined *necessitous* opinion? But it wont do, Sir; it so puts one in mind of the old fable of the Fox who lost his tail, or it may be perhaps that he is a married man, and in the habit of bearing lasting *marks* of his Wife's affection; then, indeed, a little invective is excusable; but I wish he had left out that unhappy concluding quotation, I do not know who was the author of the Epigram from whence it was extracted, but I am sure he must have had a more than ordinary portion of inseusibility in his composition.

DOMITIUS.

Death.

At Nagpore, on the 7th instant, JOHN GRAY, Esq. in the Medical Service on the Bengal Establishment, and attached to the 2d Battalion 22d Regiment of Native Infantry. The death of Dr. GRAY is ascribable to a Pulmonic affection, aggravated in consequence of Military service during a long and fatiguing march from Cuttack to Hussiaabad in the hot season of 1821. In society, the mild and amiable disposition and accomplished and gentlemanly manner of Dr. GRAY, was on all occasions conspicuous. Among the Literati, Dr. GRAY would have held high rank; possessing an highly finished classical education, he was indefatigable in every pursuit which had science for its object, and his labors were unceasing until its attainment was complete. In his profession, his acquirements were great, and his extreme kind nature, and unwearied attentions to those under his care, must to the Medical Department be a loss of one of its greatest ornaments, and to the Government a truly valuable Servant.

BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills,.....	12 per cent.
Ditto on Government Bills of Exchange,.....	12 per cent.
Interest on Loans on Deposit,.....	12 per cent.
Bank Shares—Premium,.....	32 & 33 per cent.

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HORACE IN CALCUTTA.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

Sir,

I am always agreeable to what any Gentleman (as employs me in his line) wants me to do. The other day I see a business in the Papers about a Shaving Glass as some Gentleman uses a Star-gazing of a morning, and some'at about Barbers and Astronomy, and as how Baxter ought for to tell'em all about it, I can't read them things myself, 'cause I am a Jamaica man born, and never larn't, but I've a friend as reads'em to me and writes a remarkable pretty text hand, and so I gets him to write this here for me, and do my best (as in duty bound) to shew that I wa'n't no Idler when I was aboard of Sir Edward Hughes in the SUPERB, and seed the Gentlemen a taking of their observations every day at Eight Bells. That was in the year 80. Sir, &c. &c. &c.

Your most humble Servant to Command, Honored Sir,

JAMES BAXTER.

The rest of our worthy Correspondent's letter we omit, as it goes into long and irrelevant details about Suffrain and the French fleet; the decline of business since Ladies and Gentlemen left off dressing and powdering their hair, and other topics. We ought not however to omit the notice that a New Investment of articles in his line is daily expected, and that his Amanuensis, like many other worthies, would be glad of a place as a Scribe. It is a singular and unaccountable fact that this letter bears the Post mark of a large and distant Military Station. Perhaps it is altogether a Hoax on the worthy Tonsor, who has been too freely treated in that way both by Wits on the Stage and in the Newspapers.—EDITOR.

HORACE—ODE III. BOOK I.—TRAVESTIED.

Thou plain shaving glass, by whose aid in the dark
(Tho' wittings may sneer and the Journalist bark)
Our Copernicans credit(1) acquire, and write volumes
For the BULL's attie(2) Readers and finical columns;
May that Cyprian(3) jilt, without shame who exposes
Her charms in broad noon-day, and under our noses,
Who coquettes with old Phœbus and laughs at our fancies,
And shews him her heels, while we think she advances;
May Venus reluctant be forced to reflect,
And thy wonderful powers be the first to detect
The Cicisbeo satellite twins that have lain
For ages perdu, and have skulked in her train!
May our Star-gazing brethren a (4)clear-sighted pair
Find Moons by the dozen, where Moons never were!
'Tis an era of prodigies! Oh for his brass(5)
And his nerves so robust, who could prate of LAPLACE
In the orderly, social, and pious JOHN BULL!
(Was he simple or sly? was he knowing or dull?)
And who nothing afraid, without book, and in haste,
Put the cart 'fore the horse, as he blund'ringly traced
Madam Venus's path and the rate she could gallop.
Woe's me! could a wiseman(6) commit his frail shalllop
On the wide sea of science so poorly provided
Nor dread being stuck up in the skies and dorid
As one of the "BULL constellation"(7) triste Hyads!
By the bye they were seven, while only two triads
Of Office Supporters yet shine in the front
Of our Indian TAURUS,* so one more they want.

- (1) ————— que tibi creditum
- (2) ————— finibus atticis
Reddas incolumem.
- (3) Sic te Diva potens Cypri
- (4) Sic fratres Helenæ, lucida sidera,
- (5) Illi robur & as triplex
- (6) ————— qui fragilem truci
Commisit pelago ratem
- Primus, nec timuit —————
- (7) ————— Nec tristes hyadas.

* Seven Stars in the front of the Constellation Taurus.

Since all wonders by seven we count, (so the rule is)
Seven champions, seven wisemen, then why not seven BULL eyes?
Oh wonderful era! The Shippies (7) in vain
Their ancient monopoly try to retain,
Unsocial—over the children of Hadley!
For tho' old fashioned Quadrant on shore answered badly,
Yet that worthy's descendants of higher degree
We are told suit on dry land as well as at sea;
And landlubbers now lay their impious (8) claws
On Sextant and Circle to spy out faux pas
In heavenly motions! I tremble to think
When they bring down (10) the sun to the horizon's brink,
Lest they steal (9) like Prometheus (9) a lot of his rays
To set our poor Ganges (10) some day in a blaze
And leave nothing but deserts where Ouse rice once stood!
But ill is the wind that blows nobody good.
Hosts of fevers (11) might rage unsubdued o'er the land
But Cholera would surely be brought to a stand?
And tho' Death (12) and the Doctors found business enough
Our ears would escape more Oryzean stuff.
But these moon-striken mortals are sadly incredulous
Or else I could tell them a story, how Daedalus (13)
Took an airing aloft, (14) made too free with the sun,
And so lost his dear boy and paid deär for his fun!
But sure every one knows what befel the poor Kite?
Not content to go visiting Venus at night,
(If see her he must) in the old decent way,
He would need go a peeping and spying by day,
And join in the general star-gazing mania
That unsettles so many ill-ballasted crania!
While he thus soared aloft, and looked down with disdain
On the Bird of sad Andrew's untenanted Fane,
Lo! pierced by the bolt of the Thunderer (15) Jove
Kite in Solitude writhes, as a warning, above
To presumptuous (16) observers! but warnings are lost
On those who'd fair star-gaze at honest John's cost (17)
With fine instruments sent out by Dolland or Troughton;
Did ever you hear of a Barber as bought one?
What need of such dear things, when plain shaving glasses
Will do quite as well? He that gainsays, an ass is!
If we must have Observat'ries, BAXTER's your man,
To furnish the instruments, chalk out the plan,
If I can't use a shaving glass, tell me who can?

his

JAMES ✕ BAXTER.
mark

(7) Nequicquam Deus abscidit.
Prudens oceanō dissociabili.

(8) Terras, si tamen impia.
Non tangenda rates.

(9) Audax Japeti genus.

(10) Ignem fraude malā gentibus intulit.
Post ignem ætheria domo.
Subductum.

(11) ————— et nova febrium.
Terris incubuit cohors.

(12) ————— necessitas.
Lethi corripuit gradum.

(13) Expertus vacuum Daedalas æra.

(14) Pennis non homini datis.

(15) Nil mortalibus arduum est

(17) Cœlum ipsum petimus stultitâ

(15) ————— Scelus
Iracunda Jovē ponere fulmine.

Stations of Vessels in the River.

MAY 17, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—St. THIAGO MAIOR (P.)—VALETTA, and JOHN BARRY, proceeded down,—MARY ANN, outward-bound, remains. Kedgeree.—HARRIET, outward-bound, remains. New Anchorage.—His Majesty's Sloop CURLEW,—Honorable Company's Ship EARL OF BALCARRES.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—273—

To Lord Byron.

Sweet Bard of woe !
Oh ! sweep again the plaintive lyre !
And while the gems of feeling flow
Adown the trembling wire,
I'll bless the Minstrel's magic art
That calms the fever of the heart.

The spell-fraught gleam,
That shone on life's young morning bright,
That vanished like the passing dream
In sorrow's troubled night,
And mirth's broad glare but mocks the gloom
Of feelings blighted in their bloom.

Gay Hope was young.
And she of Love and Joy would speak,—
But silent are the notes she sung,—
And oh ! the heart would break,
But for the Minstrel's Harp of woe
That bids the soothing tear to flow.

Lorn Bard of tears !
Oh ! sweep again the plaintive string !
And while the throb that grief endears
Its hallowed balm shall bring,
I'll bless the Minstrel's magic art
That calms the fever of the heart !

Bandah, May 1822.

D. L. R.

A Free Press and Trial by Jury.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

A MILITARY FRIEND having passed a very high, and I think well-merited eulogium, on the advantages of a Free Press in India, which appeared in your JOURNAL of Friday, one B. (which is, I think, the initial of BULLOCK), has shown his chagrin through the brazen BULL of this morning, by bellowing forth a certain quantity of inarticulate stuff, on which I beg leave to make a few remarks :—

"An Officer, (says he), a Company's Servant, paid and supported by the Company, asserting publicly, that one of the Calcutta Newspapers has done more good than all the Laws and Regulations that ever were framed, and hoping for the time there will be NO LEGAL COURTS to harass the Natives!"

The latter part of this sentence, or any thing conveying such a meaning, being no where to be found in your Correspondent's Letter, I shall pass it over, with only professing my contempt for the Writer's head or heart, who could put forth a gross misrepresentation of this kind that could be so easily detected and must so soon expose him or his publisher to open shame.

"I really confess my astonishment (he continues) at such writings, and I am sorry to see them come from any Officer. They will do his cause no good. They will not advance the liberty of the Press. They will retard it. They will COMPEL the Government of the country to interfere, and lay restrictions upon it; for if allowed to go on, they will lay the foundation of mischiefs, political and social, which the oldest of us may live to deplore."

Such writings will effect all this, will they ? Because the Liberty of the Press granted by the Government has been very beneficial, it is an insult, is it, to the Government, to say so ? In my humble apprehension, on the contrary, an eulogium on the benefits of a Free Press, is necessarily an eulogium on the Government. But such writings, he says, will compel the Government to interfere and lay restrictions on the Press. Why, in the name of wonder ? The Government removed the Restrictions with a view (was it not ?) to benefit the country ; and because it is told that this wise measure has been singularly beneficial, it will be compelled to restore the restrictions ? This is a strange confusion of ideas truly ; and I hope B. will be confined to some humble station that he may do no mischief while this derangement of intellect lasts.

But perhaps it is the comparison made between the advantages resulting from a Free Press, and those from the Rules and Regulations, that staggers B. Now, although I never dipped into the secrets of any cabinet, I apprehend that a Government zealous to improve the condition of its subjects (which ours confessedly is) will feel equal pleasure when this end is accomplished by one of its measures as by another ; and that it would not feel itself insulted to be told "such and such a measure of yours has been singularly beneficial, more so than all the others you have adopted." The whole praise still remains with the Government, whether it be chalked down to the head of "Removing Restrictions from the Indian Press," or "Enacting certain Rules and Regulations."

I shall quote a case in point, which may throw some additional light on this question. An eminent Lawyer in a well known Trial for Bribery, is reported to have told Twelve Common Tradesmen of Calcutta that "*Their Verdict (if impartially given according to the evidence, of course) would do more to purify the fountains of Justice, and enforce the due and impartial administration of the Laws, than a THOUSAND Regulations issued by the Government.*" Now had B. been upon the Bench (which I hope and believe he never will nor any one that resembles him) instead of the worthy Judge now at another Presidency, he would have risen, full of wrath, and reprimanded the independent Advocate thus :—

"In the name of common sense what do you mean by this, man ! Do you really believe that such a saying will do good to any cause ? Do you think yourself at liberty as a Barrister to insult the Government of the country ? If you do, you have odd notions of your duty. You congratulate the Natives from the bottom of your heart at the good which Trial by Jury has done them in protecting them from the knavery of their countrymen, (the corruption of Pundits, Muoluees, &c., vide Poorneah or Bribery case, CALCUTTA JOURNAL, 15th December, 1821), and you hope that it will be no longer in the power of those who are supposed to give correct legal opinions and promote the administration of Justice, to rob their countrymen even in legal Courts by PUTTING UP JUSTICE TO AUCTION AND SELLING IT TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ; which they are enabled to do, you say, from the situations they hold, according to the Rules and Regulations. Here is pretty language for a Barrister to use ! But this is just what might be expected from TRIAL BY JURY IN INDIA ! that is a Jury freed from all restraint but their own conscience. A Barrister, an Officer or Servant of the Court, supported by his own talents exercised in this Court, asserting publicly that "Justice was put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder" by two Pundits of the Sudder Dewanah Adawlut, and that an honest Verdict of Twelve Common Tradesmen of Calcutta would do more good than a THOUSAND Regulations of the Government ! And you hope that the time will come when Englishmen will be so well acquainted with the Laws that it shall be impossible for the Native Officers of the Court to rob their countrymen under the guise of Justice ? I really confess my astonishment at such sayings, and I am sorry to see them come from any Barrister. They will do his cause no good. They will not advance Trial by Jury. They will retard it. They will COMPEL the Government of the country to interfere, and lay restrictions upon it ; for if suffered to go on, they will lay the foundation of mischiefs which the oldest of us may live to deplore ! They will indeed !"

Such is the empty declamation employed against the manifest advantages of a Free Press in India. To speak seriously, the fact of the benefits resulting from the Government Regulations being compared by the learned Counsel above alluded to, with those resulting from Trial by Jury, which was the subject of his eulogy, as also their being compared by your Correspondent to the advantages of a Free Press, equally the object of his praise and admiration, is a proof, that both these Gentlemen considered the advantages of the said Regulations very great, or they never could have selected them as an object of comparison with things which they evidently meant not to ridicule by mean comparisons, but were on the contrary seeking to extoll.

Wishing all success to the good cause, I am, your's, &c.

May 18, 1822.

NEITHER A B. NOR A BULL'S FOOT.

—274—

Drunkenness in the Army.SIR, *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

If you think the inserting in your Paper the following remarks, &c. would be the means in the smallest degree of preventing the shocking practice to which they allude, you are at full liberty to do so.

The awful desolation both in lives and morals which has been and still is made, among our brave fellow-countrymen in the Army of this Establishment, through Drunkenness, has been a source of many an hour's very painful reflection to me; for I have seen young men when landing in this country in all the vigour of blooming health, who through a life of intemperance have in two or three years looked more wan and emaciated than many veterans have done who have led a more sober life, and who have been ten, fifteen, or twenty years in India. It has not unfrequently been the case that men slightly affected with dysentery have used the drinking of ardent spirits to such excess (under the false notion of curing themselves) as has only enraged the disorder to such a degree that they have been obliged to go into Hospital, where nothing but the great care, skill, and assiduity of the Gentleman of the Faculty (under God) has recovered them to their health: some indeed have fallen a prey to the disorder, which no doubt was heightened through their own intemperance. I have known men confined to the Guard Room drunk, where they have lain down, and in two hours have found them corpses; the recollection of which makes me shudder while I write, and reflect that thus a rational soul is hurried before the tribunal of its insulted Creator, surrounded with all its transgressions unrepented of. I have heard men say that if they had time to say "Lord have mercy upon me" before they died, all would be well with them; but when a man dies insensibly drunk, he has not power to say that much. Others I have known continue drinking for weeks together who have at length become so debilitated as not to be capable of performing any duty: some have gone almost raging to Hospital and in a few days have died.

It has been remarked that Soldiers in Britain have been seldom or ever known to use such wanton acts of opposition against their non-Commissioned Officers as has been frequently the case in India, even to the taking or attempting to take their life; and such acts have almost invariably been committed when in a state of intoxication, and against those who have been most vigilant to suppress drinking to excess. The reason assigned is that Soldiers in England have not such a ready access to spirituous liquors. It is true the existing rules and regulations are most excellent, if they could always be carried into effect; but notwithstanding the vigilance of some non-Commissioned Officers, the men will find means to evade fulfilling them, and avoid detection. Besides there may be some non-Commissioned Officers who, instead of preventing the evil, countenance it. There is also a compensation held out to men in lieu of their spirits, but the compensation is so very small in comparison of what they can obtain from their comrades that few will choose to accept it. Hence there are many who pass for steady obedient men in the eyes of their Officers, but who really are destroyers of morals, disobeys of orders, and the very promoters of intemperance. Many such persons whose inclination does not lead them to drink to excess, buy of their comrades a month's liquor, giving (if on full Battal) seven or eight rupees for it, and then retail it with their own at a rate which brings in fifteen or fifteen and a half rupees per mensem, for what they give but seven or eight for. Thus those who are able to buy, carry on a clandestine and lucrative trade of selling; and others who are not able to buy, retail their own as it may be wanted.

I do not mean to say there are no truly good men in our Army; I know there are many, some of whom are stigmatized by their comrades because they neither traffic one way or another with their liquor. There are also some among these, as also a few among the former, who would receive the compensation for their liquor; but they have not courage sufficient to bear them up under the opprobrious and sarcastic jeers of their comrades.

And now, Sir, will you permit me to offer what I have thought might be a means of preventing this pernicious and

destructive vice, the forerunner of almost all the crimes committed in the Army. From what I have seen of Soldiers during a service of upwards of 15 years, much of which has been on actual service, I have found that those who drink but little of any spirituous liquors are the most healthy and fit for duty. And were it left to the option of every European Soldier to abstain from or draw liquor for the whole or part of a month, receiving the arrears with their monthly pay at the same time, allowing only one dram per day for each Soldier when in Barracks, and two when in Camp or on actual service, which liquor either raw or diluted as the Soldier may prefer to be drank in the presence of authority; if in Barracks after their dinner, if in Camp morning or noon or noon and evening; by that or some such means a great blow would be given to this despicable vice; for none would draw to throw away or sell again. The trouble attending this method would be very trifling: a memorandum kept of the names of the men who drew liquor daily during the month I think would answer the end.

That some effectual method may be thought of and adopted, if not entirely to subdue this monstrous vice, at least to prevent it much more than at present from destroying our fellow countryman in the East, is the fervent wish of prayer,

Sir, Your's and theirs most sincerely,

AN HOWARDIAN,

Preaching in Unknown Languages.SIR, *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

The willingness you have always evinced in giving publicity to Letters, in your JOURNAL, connected with certain irregularities in the Roman Catholic Church of this City, emboldened me to address you on a subject, affecting in a very material degree the spiritual interests of the immense body of Catholics, spread over this vast country. In doing so, I hope and trust, that a spirit of malevolence will not be imputed to me, and that every steady adherent in the good cause will aid me in attempting the melioration of a large class of Christians, the majority of whom are fast falling into the abyss of superstition and ignorance.

It may be averred, with little chance of contradiction, that the want of spiritual instruction among the Indian Catholics is very great, and loudly calls for improvement. The Portuguese Mission from Goa, consisting of about twenty Priests, have hitherto made very slender progress in their profession; for independent of a notorious want of zeal, they do not possess the most essential requisite for disseminating the Gospel in this portion of the globe; a knowledge of the vernacular tongue. Their sole acquirement, (unlike the meritorious Missionaries of Serampore,) has been confined to the unadulterated Portuguese, which is here so little understood and so rarely cultivated, that it almost amounts to nonentity. If the Priests would pursue the study of the English and Bengalee languages, they would render themselves more efficient for the duties of their high calling, their progress would be marked with certain success, and their exertions prove eminently beneficial to the Catholic Community.

I have mentioned the English and Bengalee, because the Catholics of India are generally versed in those languages. The Portuguese might form an addition, for occasional use, and their combination would supply, in toto, the paucity of instruction in religion, at present the theme of regret with those who are aware of the lamentable deficiency in that important branch of human knowledge. Allow me therefore to suggest, through your Paper, to my Catholic Brethren, the adoption of measures for rendering the Priests now in Calcutta proficient in the languages adyerted to; or, if this step be unattainable, we must seek for aid from the Clergy of Ireland, a few of whom might be invited to supply the place of those whose indifference is now a crying evil. How distressing it must be to all enlightened men when they are told that the dark intellects of a very large body of Christians have not yet received the cheering rays of divine Truth, and that they are suffered to live and die, as they were born, in the most abject ignorance of the religion of their forefathers.

April 30, 1822.

Your obedient Servant,

A LAYMAN,

Monday, May 20, 1822.

—275—

Surgeons and Magistrates.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I perceive a Correspondent of yours, under the initials of M. D. has done me the honor to notice the letter inserted by you a short time back. When I wrote that letter I acknowledge I had not calculated on such an event; and I am by no means gratified with the situation I am placed in, being obliged in some measure to support the opinion I advanced. You will readily believe this, when I inform you some that esteemed Friends of mine were, and are, in the Medical line. I was drawn into writing my former letter, by the various published recommendations of Medical Men on Civil Stations, for one situation or other, independent of their profession. I was as tired of these, as the Athenian of Aristides the Just, and when one person in February last gave as a cause for their receiving additional allowances, that they were not able to command respect because unable to give *Bura Khanas* in turn with the Civilians, I wrote the letter that has drawn your Correspondent's notice, and he will, I have no doubt, feel the force and merits of such reasons in behalf of the Junior Medical Men of the Service.

I can have no objection to M. D.'s opinion, that I have mistaken, and mis-argued what *PHILOPATRIS* has advanced respecting Civil Surgeons; he observes, that he is mistaken if *PHILOPATRIS*'s letter contained any special or inviolable comparisons of the fitness of Medical Gentlemen, and Mofussil Merchants, and Planters, for Magistrates, &c. I am not aware that my letter, in any way, expresses that he did; his observation is merely that they were as a body, or generally, the best educated, &c. &c. whether this opinion is borne out by facts, or not, every man, as M. D. truly says, will solve by his own experience; his, he tells us, is decidedly that it is; mine that it is not; and that they have not that superiority over other of their fellow subjects, born in the same class of society, that *PHILOPATRIS* and M. D. would imply, or that might induce a Government, when such aid was required, to take them from the necessary attention to the line of their profession, on which so much is at stake, and which M. D. assures us has cost so heavy an expence in requiring to place them as stipendiary Magistrates, &c. in the Interior.

That the Medical Men in the Company's Service, as a class, are deserving of every praise that has been bestowed on them from whatever quarter, I am ready to admit as M. D. and I further believe, none will gainsay it; such praise is theirs; let them therefore persevere in the profession that has procured it them, or such as have, or think they have, talent and ability of such superior description as to make them above it and the allowance it procures them, let them honorably resign, and make room for others, who may be of a different stamp or opinion.

I am as little competent as M. D. (notwithstanding I commenced Officer 30 years back,) to speak from personal observation, of things 10 years before that period. M. D. must have supposed I alluded to the difference between men now in this country, not in the Company's Service, and those who were so at that time, when the much greater part were adventures, without education or connection, and who from the restrictions then in force, got into the interior by means that men of a superior description would disdain, whatever advantages it would insure them. Had Government then needed an inferior Magistracy, &c. whatever objections might have existed, necessity might have obliged them to look to the superior talent and ability of the Medical Department for aid, though it is possible in the *good old times*, such appointment might have been declined, or avoided by statements of claims without timely professional duties. I mean to support that no such necessity now exists from such a cause. M. D. says there are few Medical men, that have not had the advantages of a University education, with the addition of hospital practice, clinical lectures, and academic debating societies. That very many have had those advantages, I presume not to deny; particularly those from the North, where a University education is proverbially cheap. Yet that a moiety have not I must hold as my opinion; but allowing it to be the *sine qua non* to an appointment in this country, it touches

not my argument respecting want of years, proficiency in the Native language, and constant change of appointment.

I beg to observe that my letter exclusively spoke of Assistant Surgeons at Civil Stations, whom I represented to be in general Junior in the Service. M. D. asks, "Is it so? it was not so formerly, in the good old times;" and then gives reasons why it is so, as also for the constant changes of appointment. That it is so, is my position; why or wherefore I did not inquire; and I must retain my opinion, that to young men just come out to the Service, looking to increased rank and advantages, from 300 to 400 rupees per month is a liberal allowance; sufficiently so to deter them from immediately aiming to deviate from the line of their profession for an increase. I, however, by no means think such sum sufficient for those who may perhaps have passed 15 years in service in this country; although, if necessary, we need not look far, in another line of the Service to find those who have exceeded that period, and with the rank of Captain by Brevet, have nothing like 300 rupees per month. I am perfectly of opinion with M. D. that notwithstanding attention to lectures, and debating societies, the Medical men of the present day may have found time to have studied Cocker sufficiently to prefer 700 to 3 or 400 rupees a month, though accompanied with the Military duties of the profession; but while the Civil Stations are filled by those Juniors in the Service, 3 or 400 rupees per month, I again repeat, is liberal; unless Government should deign to take into their consideration the necessity of keeping up their respect by unabling them to give *Bura Khanas*.

The liberal footing on which M. D. has put the subject, in the last paragraph of his letter, is such as I cannot oppose. I admit there is nothing absurd or incongruous, in making Civil Surgeons useful to the Public in any avocation, while it can be done without taking their time and attention from those claims, which must be considered tantamount, while they follow the Medical profession. And agreeing, as I do, with M. D. that no profession requires more study, &c. to acquire and retain it, than the Law, except Medicine, I think it would not argue wisdom in that power which placed a man in a situation, to make it his duty to be proficient in both. Of the possibility of doing so, in a climate like this, I profess my doubts.

There is, however, in addition to other objections to employ my Medical men, out of the line of their profession, a very strong one in my estimation; which is the superabundant population at home, who are not happy enough to have an appointment in their pocket that will immediately give them from 300 to 400 rupees per month with the certain prospect of increased rank and emoluments. Many of those men, (or my information deceives me,) would be happy to take a moiety of such, and give their whole attention and exertion to win it. If therefore, when an Inferior Magistracy is required, it is to be paid for, let such persons of respectability benefit by it, who are wholly unprovided for, and who, in possession of abilities and industry, pine in listlessness and anxiety, for want of opportunity to prove they are so gifted. If such Magistracy, when required, is to be merely honorary, I presume such of the Mofussil merchants, planters and others, as may be deemed competent, and are willing to make themselves useful that way, may not expect to find much opposition to their wishes.

I remain, Sir, very obediently yours

AN OLD OFFICER.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

BUY.]	CALCUTTA.	[SELL]
2 1 & 2 1½	On London 6 months sight, per Sicees Rupees 2 1½ & 2 *	
	Bombay 30 days sight, per 100 Bombay Rupees 92 *	
	Madras ditto, 96 & 98 Sa. Rs. per 100 Madras Rupees	

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY. H. M.

Morning.....	-2	12
Evening.....	2	38

Political Agents.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I perceive an ASSISTANT TO A POLITICAL AGENT has favored the Public with some remarks, on the degree of authority possessed by a diplomatic Agent, over Troops acting with him, or at his requisition; and as your Correspondent confines the Commandant of the Troops to the mere duty of exposing his person during an action, I have ventured (notwithstanding my humble situation) to offer a few observations, in reply to the Political Assistant, on the duties of a Political Agent and Military Commandant when acting together.

It appears to me, that when a Political Agent may require the assistance of the Military, it becomes his duty to furnish the Commanding Officer with every possible information relative to the service to be performed, the nature of the country in which the Troops are likely to act, the description of the Enemy's Troops, the facility or otherwise of procuring supplies in his territory; the number and strength of his Forts, and, in short, with all the information he may have been able to obtain, respecting the means, offensive or defensive, of the Enemy.

On receiving this information, it will rest with the Commanding Officer to order a Detachment of such strength and composed of such Troops as he may deem best calculated to bring the service to a speedy and successful termination.

It must also rest with the Commanding Officer to regulate the marches of the Troops, and to point out the routes by which, the Detachment will enter the Enemy's country.

The Military Officer must also use his own discretion in commencing or suspending an attack, and it must be evident, that an Officer cannot conduct the operations of a Detachment with effect, unless he be at liberty to exercise his own judgment, on all Military points, free from any interference on the part of Political Agent; but according to your Correspondent, these Agents are at liberty to order a retreat, or an attack, to detail the strength of a Detachment, and of course, in the exercise of this right, nominate the Officer to command it. Concede this, and they may with equal propriety claim to detain the Guards for the protection of the Camp.

The settlement of the Territory acquired, the drawing up of Treaties, and disposal of Prisoners, will rest with the Political Agent; but to say he is to point out the strength of a Detachment or interfere in the movements of the Troops, is most absurd; these are points purely Military, and with which a Political Agent can have nothing to do. The Agent having intimated to the Commanding Officer the object to be attained, the necessary Military arrangements for carrying the views of Government into effect must be left to the Commandant of the Troops, and the above is responsible to Government for the conduct of the Troops.

I am aware a great difference of opinion exists on this subject, and I should be well pleased to see the point set at rest by competent authority.

Under the impression that the Assistant has taken an erroneous view of the authority he may one day possess, I have ventured to offer my opinion on the subject; and by giving this letter a place in your Paper, you will greatly oblige,

Your Sincere Well-wisher,

Central-India, April 10, 1822.

AN ADJUTANT OF BENGAL.
NATIVE INFANTRY.

PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars,.....	Sicca Rupees	206	0	a	206	4	per 100
Doubloons,.....		31	0	a	31	8	each
Joes, or Pezas,.....		17	8	a	17	12	each
Dutch Ducats,.....		4	4	a	4	12	each
Louis D'Ors,.....		8	4	a	8	8	each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,.....		191	4	a	191	8	per 100
Star Pagodas,.....		3	6	a	3	7	6 each
Sovereigns,.....		10	0	a	10	8	
Bank of England Notes,.....		10	0	a	11	0	

Price of Funds.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

As an old Subscriber to your JOURNAL and a well-wisher, I take the liberty of telling you, that several errors have lately crept into your Paper regarding the quotations of the Company's Funds, the fluctuation during the last fortnight in the Money Market has affected the Commercial Interests of this place very considerably, and as this subject must always be a very interesting one to the generality of your Subscribers, both here and abroad, I beg leave gently to hint, that were you, before putting your JOURNAL to Press, just to order your Circular to send a Broker among the Banking Shroffs to enquire the rates of Government Paper daily, and thereby to insert them correctly, the information, knowing that it might be depended on, would be useful and acceptable to many of your Readers, and among them to

Your obedient Servant,

Garden-Reach, May 15, 1822.

P.— G.—

Note.—The Prices of Government Securities are generally taken from the CALCUTTA EXCHANGE PRICE CURRENT, which being Published by the Authority of the Exchange Committee, we have naturally supposed to be unexceptionable.—EO.

Anonymous Writers.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

There are some opinions in the letter signed CIVIS, and copied from the ASIATIC JOURNAL into your Paper of the 25th instant, so injurious in their tendency, that they deserve reprobation. The circumstances under which CARNATICUS is stated to make his attack, CIVIS observes "are not those of a person pledging his own character for the truth of his allegations." Again, "but a question in which moral character (that of the Hindoos) is involved, cannot possibly be decided if the character of the witness be kept out of sight. By declaring himself, he would obviate a great number of unfavourable impressions; he should consider that the Public is totally unacquainted with the moral character of the person who thus steps forward to instruct them, and with the opportunities he may have had of forming correct opinions on the subject." Truth is not the less Truth whether it come from Bacon, or Locke, or Colonel Chartres, or Talleyrand; nor Falsehood the less Falsehood. Are the arguments and reasoning of Janius the less true or false because the author is anonymous?

If CARNATICUS were telling us a tale about some unknown country, as Bruce and Mungo Park in Africa, the degree of credit given him might depend much on character; but when he writes and reasons on events in India, that are as well and as generally understood as those of any country in England, it betrays a weakness in reply to talk of character. The only question ought to be, are his arguments founded in sense and reason? does it signify to their refutation that his name is A. or B. or C? CIVIS says "nothing personal can be intended by me, as CARNATICUS is anonymous;" but the tenor of CIVIS's letter contradicts his assertion, and is the mere affectation of candour. It is not my object to remark on the sentiments or reasoning of either party, but only to point out the absurdity of the doctrine, that an author's name must be published before credit can or should be given him for speaking the truth. CIVIS too observes that "CARNATICUS may find it convenient to forget that no wise man can listen to anonymous evidence, but it will be otherwise with his readers; if he is conscious of rectitude he should enforce it by the publication of his name." This deserves no reply; but now that the Liberty of the Press is beginning to take firm root in India, if such reasoning as this pass unnoticed, it may become the fashion to measure and weigh arguments by the character and rank of those who use them.

I am, Sir, Your humble Servant,

April, 1822.

ANONYMOUS.

